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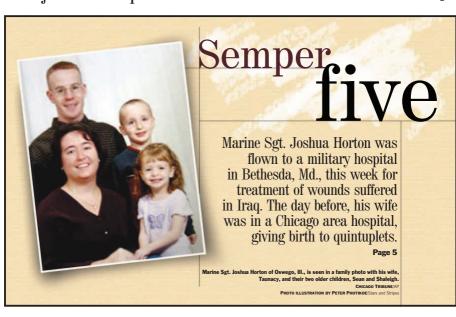
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2004

Four Americans killed by bombs inside Green Zone

Fallujah officials protest Allawi ultimatum on terror leader Page 3



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STARS STRIPES.

ews Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Ex-Klansman in hospital: Former Ku Klux Klansman Bobby Frank Cherry, serving life imprisonment for a church bombing that killed four black girls in 1963, was hospitalized in critical condition after his health deteriorated, prison officials said Thursday.

Cherry, 74, was taken from Holman Prison to Atmore Community Hospital on Wednesday, according to Brian Corbett, a spokesman for the Alabama Department of

spokesman for the Alabama Department of Corrections. Convicted in 2002 in the bombing of Birmingham's Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, Cherry has a history of heart problems, and prison officials said he has been treated for

diabetes at Holman.

His relatives said his health has worsened in recent months.

Wrongful-death lawsuit settled: The families of four student band members killed in a 2001 bus crash settled a wrongful-death lawsuit against two travel companies and their drivers for \$15 million.

The agreement came one day before a trial was to begin in Massachusetts against Boston companies Crystal Transport and Kristine Travel and Tour and drivers Hin C. Kan and Fred C. Pranger. Van Hool, the Belgian manufacturer of the bus, will also contribute to the settlement, lawyers for the families said Wednesday.

The tour bus was carrying 42 children from Oak Hill Middle School to a concert in Halifax, Nova Scotia, when the vehicle flipped on its side before dawn in April 2001 in Sussex, New Brunswick. The driver lost control after speeding into a hairpin turn on a highway exit, investigators said.

Tour bus crash: A tour bus that crashed along an Arkansas highway, killing 14, was in such poor condition that it would have been pulled out of service had it been inspected, investigators said Wednesday.

The National Transportation Safety Board said it found pre-existing cracks on frame rails that held up the motor in the rear of the bus.

The agency did not link the cracks to Saturday's crash, saying the cause remained under investigation. Authorities were still looking at whether the driver, Herbert Walters, fell asleep at the wheel and planned to subpoena his medical records.

Crematory trial: A trial for a Georgia crematory operator accused of failing to burn hundreds of corpses has been postponed while the state Supreme Court hears an appeal of scores of criminal charges.

Ray Brent Marsh had been scheduled to go on trial this month, but it was put on hold pending the appeal. Among other points, defense attorneys argue that dead bodies are not property subject to the state's theft laws. The 787 criminal charges against Marsh include 439 counts of theft.

Pakistani pleads guilty: A Pakistani man arrested after a police officer saw him videotaping skyscrapers and landmarks in Charlotte, N.C., pleaded guilty Tuesday to five charges, none related to terrorism.

Under a plea agreement, Kamran Akhtar, 35, faces up to six months in prison before being deported. The charges carried a maximum of 33 years in prison.



American astronaut Leroy Chiao gives a thumbs-up during the ride from the suit-up facility at the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan to the launch pad as he and his Soyuz TMA-5 spacecraft crewmates, Russian cosmonauts Sailzhan Sharipov and Yuri Shargin, prepare for their liftoff Thursday, to the international space station. The spaceship is due to dock with the station at \$17 a.m. (0417 G.MT) on Saturdury.

Federal authorities are still trying to determine whether the New York City resident has any links to terrorism. However, they have said he is not on any terrorism watch list, and Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said in August that he had not been tied to terrorism.

Akhtar pleaded guilty to immigration violations, making false statements, failing to leave the United States and possessing false identification.

World

Pakistan president remains army chieft. Lawmakers passed a bill Thursday allowing President Gen. Pervez Musharraf to remain as Pakistan's army chief, despite his earlier promise to step down from the post. The move was condemned by opponents, who said it gives the U.S-backed leader too much power and underscores claims that Pakistan is ruled by a millitary dictatorship.

Pakistan is ruled by a military dictatorsing. The government said the bill would ensure stability in a country with a long history of political turmoil. Its passage in the National Assembly came just days after the fifth anniversary of the bloodless coup in which Musharraf took power.

The law would ensure that the country has a leader capable of strengthening "our drive and commitment in the fight against terrorism," said Tariq Azeem Khan, a spokesman for the ruling party.

Turkey EU membership: France's prime minister said Thursday that neither Turkey nor the European Union is ready for the mostly Muslim nation to join the bloc.

Kicking off a closely watched debate in parliament, Jean-Pierre Raffarin sought to soothe widespread opposition to Turkey's eventual membership, saying it wasn't imminent.

But Raffarin also said a stable Turkey is in France's interests and argued that Turkish hopes "must be considered."

Lawmakers from French President

Jacques Chirac's Union for a Popular Movement (UMP) and from other parties had pushed for a debate on Turkey's EU aspirations before Dec. 17 — when EU leaders are to finalize an initial approval of membership talks.

Chirac's support of membership talks for Turkey places him at odds with many lawmakers and French opinion.

Mad cow disease concerns: Japan confirmed its 14th case of mad cow disease on Thursday, underscoring concerns about the fatal brain-wasting illness as Tokyo mulls relaxing cattle-testing standards that could allow the resumption of U.S. beef imports.

The latest case came amid continuing talks between the United States and Japan aimed at lifting Tokyo's eight-month ban on U.S. beef imports from what had been their most lucrative overseas market.

Japan has been reconsidering its policy that all cows headed for market be tested for mad cow disease — a requirement that has become a major sticking point in the negotiations. While Tokyo says it wants to resolve the dispute, it maintains that its first priority is food safety.

War on terrorism

Moussaoui rehearing denied: Terrorism suspect Zacarias Moussaoui lost a bid Wednesday to have the full Richmond, Va.-based 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals review two issues — witness access and the death penalty —that have delayed a trial.

Moussaoui's lawyers, Frank Dunham Jr. and Edward MacMahon Jr., said they have not decided whether to ask the Supreme Court to grant Moussaoui direct access to three al-Qaida prisoners and bar the government from seeking the death penalty.

Before the ruling, the lawyers notified the trial judge in the case that they would file such an appeal if a rehearing was denied.

A petition to the high court could cause additional delay in a case that has lasted for almost three years.

Stories and photo from wire services

Correction

Maj. John Wilt's name was incorrect in a story Oct. 9 about Afghan special forces being caught in an ambush. Wilt is the team leader with the Asadabad Provisional Reconstruction Team.

Comics, horoscopes and advice every day in Stars and Stripes

Explosions rock Baghdad's Green Zone

Apparent suicide bombings kill 10, including 4 Americans; separate attacks claim 2 GIs

BY NADIA ABOU EL-MAGD The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - Insurgents penetrated Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone and detonated explosives at a market and a popular café Thursday, killing 10 people, including four American civilians, in the first bombings inside the compound housing the U.S. and Iraqi government headquar-

A top Iraqi official said the attacks appeared to have been suicide bombings.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said in Washington that four American contractors and six Iragis were killed.

The attack raised fears over security in the compound and underscored militants' ability to strike in the capital even as U.S.-Iraqi forces step up military operations to suppress them in other parts of the country.

Earlier Thursday, a U.S. soldier was killed when his patrol in Baghdad came under small arms fire, the military said. In a separate attack, a second American soldier was killed when an improvised bomb exploded in eastern Baghdad, wounding two others, the U.S. command said. No further details were disclosed.

Iraq's most feared terrorist group, Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's Tawhid and Jihad, purportedly claimed re-sponsibility for the Green Zone bombings according to a statement posted on a Web site known for its Islamic content.

A U.S. military statement said the two bombs appeared to have "hand carried" into the zone. Five people were killed, including three Americans, and 20 wounded, including one U.S. soldier, an American airman and two U.S. civilians, the statement said. Officials did not release the nationalities of the other dead and wounded.

Last week, officials said an improvised bomb was found in front of the Green Zone Café - the same restaurant targeted Thursday - but was defused.

After Thursday's blasts, the U.S. Embassy "strongly encouraged" Americans living or working in the Green Zone to limit their movements, travel in groups, carry several means of communication and avoid the bayear and restaurants inside the compound

A delegation from the insurgent stronghold Fallujah suspended peace talks with the government Thursday because of Prime Minister Avad Allawi's "impossible" demand to hand over terror mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the city spokesman said. Allawi warned Wednesday that

Fallujah must surrender al-Zarqawi and other foreign fighters or face military attack.

Abu Asaad, spokesman for the religious council of Falluiah, said that "handing over al-Zarqawi" was an "impossible condition" since even the Americans were unable to catch him.

Elsewhere, two bombs exploded Thursday in the northern city of Mosul, targeting an Iraqi National Guard patrol and an American military convoy, witnesses and U.S. officials said. At least two people were killed and seven others wounded.

Military spokesman Lt. Col. Paul Hastings confirmed that an Iraqi National Guard convov was hit by a roadside bomb. Guards found another bomb at the same site and detonated it in a controlled explosion.

The second explosion hap-



An American helicopter passes over after two explosions in the heavily fortified Green Zone in Baghdad on Thursday, The Green Zone is home to the U.S. Embassy and Iraqi government offices.

pened as an American convoy was passing, but missed its target, Hastings said. Witnesses said it appeared to be a car bomb. A hospital worker, speaking on condition of anonymity, said one Iraqi bystander was killed and another injured in the second explo-

U.S. and Iraqi forces have stepped up military operations in Sunni militant strongholds across a wide swathe of territory north and west of Baghdad on the eve of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which last year saw a surge in rebel attacks.

U.S. warplanes struck at least three sites in Fallujah on Thursday which the command said were being used by followers of al-Zargawi. Intelligence sources indicated one building was being used to store weapons and two were safehouses used to plan attacks, the military said.

At least five people were killed and 16 wounded in all, according to Fallujah General Hospital. Late Thursday, Fallujah resi-

dents reported another intensive round of U.S. bombardment as the embattled city came under heavy air fire from U.S. forces.

In Ramadi, city hospital officials said Thursday eight people were killed and 17 wounded in 24 hours of fighting.

U.S. troops swept into the city west of Baghdad early Wednes day, sealing off key streets, taking position on the rooftons and searching buildings, residents said. Warplanes and helicopters hovered overhead. Rebels fought back with gun-

fire and mortar blasts. Three mortars, apparently aimed at city hall, slammed into a nearby house, killing two people and wounding four, including women and children, said Dr. Alaa al-Aani of Ramadi General Hospi-

The fighting subsided Thursday morning and U.S. forces with-drew from the city, resident said. The U.S. military had no immediate comment on the clashes.
Similar raids in Bagouba on

Wednesday netted 10 suspects, including two people believed to be insurgent leaders in the area, said Capt. Marshall Jackson, spokesman for the 3rd Brigade, 1st In-

U.S. deaths in Iraq

As of Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2004, 1,081 members of the U.S

military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 825 died as a result of hostile action and 256 died of non-hostile causes. The figures include three military civilians

The British military has reported 67 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, eight; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; the Netherlands, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 943 U.S. military members have died — 716 as a result of hostile action and 227 of non-hostile causes, according to the military's numbers as of Wednesday. Since the start of U.S. military operations in Iraq, 7,862 U.S. service members have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defense Department's weekly

The latest deaths reported by the military: ■ Two soldiers were killed Wednesday in a car bomb attack in Mosul

■ One soldier was killed Wednesday when an explosive detonated in western Baghdad.

■ Three soldiers were killed Tuesday when an explosive detonated near their convoy in eastern Bagh-

The latest identification reported by the military:

Army Staff Sgt. Michael L. Burbank, 34, Bremerton, Wash.; killed Monday when an explosive deto-

nated near his vehicle in Mosul, Iraq; assigned to the 1st Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Lewis, Army Sgt. Pamela G. Osbourne, 38, Hollywood, Fla. and Army Pfc. Anthony W. Monroe, 20, Bismarck, N.D.; killed Monday when rockets hit their camp in Baghdad; assigned to the Division Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

■ Marine Pfc. Oscar A. Martinez, 19, North Lauderdale, Fla.; killed Tuesday in Anbar province; assigned to I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp

endleton, Calif. Marine Cpl. Ian T. Zook, 24, Port St. Lucie, Fla.; killed Tuesday in Anbar province; assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Western compound proves uneasy oasis

BY RAGHAD IWAZ The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - The leafy Green Zone is touted as the safest place in Baghdad, but the U.S.-guarded enclave that spreads along the banks of the Tigris River in the heart of the capital has never been immune from violence.

Even before Thursday's deadly bombings at a market and a café inside the fenced-off 4 square miles, the zone was a regular target of insurgent mortar attacks and several car bombs exploded at its gates.

Its trees and other greenery offering a sharp contrast to the rest of dusty and arid Baghdad, the area is crowded with the offices of the interim government, occupation officials and foreign contractors as well as the homes of thousands of average Iragis.

Surrounded by 13-foot-high

concrete walls, razor wire, sandhag bunkers and guard posts, the zone also is an enclave of the Western lifestyle.

About 5,000 Americans are hunkered down in the zone. Women in shorts often jog along tree-lined avenues, and off-duty soldiers lounge by the pool. Everything from pornographic movies to mobile phone accessories are on sale at the local bazaar.

One problem is a lack of space. Dozens of trailer parks are scattered around the zone, shielded by sandbags to guard against mortar shells and rockets.

The American planners who drew the Green Zone perimeter had to include hundreds of middle class homes because they were near important government buildings that couldn't be left out. Many of those people aren't happy about their American neighbors.

Troops take a gamble on Iraqi dinars

Some investors see future gold in currency that's not worth pennies now

BY JULIANA GITTLER Stars and Strings

BAGHDAD — In drawers and footlockers, servicemembers in Iraq are banking on the future by hoarding millions of Iraq's year-old currency, the dinar.

Many suspect the dinar's precipitous drop in the past decade could mean a huge rebound ahead. Each dinar was once worth a few dollars; they're now worth a fraction of a penny apiece.

If post-war Kuwait is any example, they might be right: A Kuwaiti dinar was valued at a about a dime after the war. Each now brings in \$3.40.

Still, that's a big gamble, financial experts say. And Iraq is no Kuwait — a small, politically stable country with massive oil reserves.

Insurgents, a nascent government and extreme poverty still plague Iraq.

"If only the country turns around," said one investor, Staff Sgt. Matthew Gadbois, a Vermont National Guardsman with the 1st Battalion, 86th Field Artillery at Camp Victory, Baghdad.
"That's the gamble," adds an-

"That's the gamble," adds another, Sgt. Richard Couture, from the same unit.

The two, and most soldiers they know, have picked up a few hundred thousand dinars — equivalent to a couple hundred dollars. They know others who have bought considerably more.

bought considerably more.

If the value jumps just a bit —
from 1/16th of a penny to 1/8th of
a penny for example, investors
double their money. If it jumps to
a few cents, they can start paying
off mortgages, the goal for Gadbois.

He learned of the scheme from a fellow soldier who, he adds, likes to gamble.

"I was skeptical at first," Gadbois says. "But it's like playing the stock market. If it takes off, great."

Iraq has a few attributes that make it attractive. The most obvious is oil, and the fact that it could blossom into a functional country. Still the government could overWhat's in a dinar?

Iraq's currency once held sway in world markets. According to a Library of Congress report, the Iraqi dinar was once worth as much as \$3.39 during the 1970s and ermained at nearly that level until the Iran-Iraq war during the *20s. Sanctions following the Gulf War

Sanctions following the Guilf War caused the currency to plunge, according to the Central Bank of Iraq. After Iraq fell in 2003, the currency, which once included Saddam Hussein's picture was changed. On Oct. 15, 2003, the Coalition Provisional Authority, then in charge, launched a new dinar. Currently \$1 buys 1.460 Iraql dinars.



spend and weaken the economy despite its oil. And there's always inflation to dampen the already low value

"While that is a nice idea, soldiers probably shouldn't be currency speculators," said Michael A. Goldstein, associate professor of finance at Babson College in Massachusetts in an e-mailed statement. "All sorts of things could happen, especially inflation in dinars. This is likely a sucker bet— if the major investment banks aren't speculating, neither should your average GI."

He points to the example in Eastern Europe after the Cold War. Gains in currency value were eroded by inflation as the country developed.

"One of the easiest ways to finance government expenditures is just to print more money and spend it. When the government prints more money, it causes inflation," he says.

It might also be difficult or expensive to off-load the dinars down the road. The few banks that buy foreign currency in the States

charge fees for doing so, he says.

Many soldiers recognize the
gamble and are prepared to wait
years to see what happens.

yea't or see whall appears. Begin westment, "soy lept," Sog Moreland, currently serving with the 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment of the California National Guard in Camp Scania, Iraq, "Most of us have thrown a few hundred bucks at it to see what happens. Your odds are better than they are in Vesas." He adds that Department of Defense savings programs are probably a better bet.

Military investors should note that U.S. customs laws require them to declare if they bring home more than the equivalent of \$10,000 in any currency.

And post offices in theater forbid mailing currency home. But there is no Department of Defense regulation to stop them, according to military officials.

The get-rich-quick idea isn't limited to those serving in Iraq.

On the auction Web site eBay, dinars sell for marginally more than the going rate. A recent sale collected \$75 for 100,000 dinars. Under the current exchange rate, that amount should cost about \$68.

Scores of vendors online have been set up just to sell dinars. In one case, a million dinars, worth about \$685, was on sale for \$895. One of these sites sums up the efforts in its name: Be-

tOnIrag.com.

Its Web site adds a caveat: "We sell genuine currency that, in our opinion, stands a good chance of appreciating in value. We can offer no guarantees of a return on

Goldstein adds that as a gamble the idea isn't crazy, but it's certainly not a wise investment.

"Short answer — don't do this with more money than you usually bet in one evening's poker game."

E-mail Juliana Gittler at: gittleri@pstripes.osd.mil



JULIANA GITTLER/Stars and Stripe

Staff Sgt. Matthew Gadbois, a Vermont National Guardsman with the 1st Battalion, 86th Field Artillery at Camp Victory, Baghdad, shows off his investment in Iraqi dinars. Servicemembers banking that the depressed currency could rebound are buying it by the bundle.

Conference nets Iraq millions in rebuilding funds

BY ERIC TALMADGE The Associated Press

TOKYO — Donor nations wrapped up a two-day meeting Thursday with pledges to speed up projects to rebuild Iraq — possibly by using more Iraqis to implement them — and expressed their strong support for the country's plans to hold nation-wide elections in January.

The meeting of 57 countries and international organizations was a follow-up to a conference a year ago in Madrid, where the international community, led by the United States, vowed to contribute tens of billions of dollars.

Organizers said the meeting was particularly significant because it was the first time the Iraqi government has had a chance to outline its development strategy to the donors since the United States handed over sovereignty on June 28.

But, in desperate need of funds to make that plan work, much of the Iraqi delegation's efforts were focused on urging countries to come through on pledges put on hold by Iraq's continuing instability.

Deputy Prime Minister Barham Saleh opened the conference by expressing strong frustration with the slow pace of funding, arguing that many parts of the country are safe enough for projects to go forward and warning that delays could ruin Iraq's chances of a sustainable recovery.

Thursday's talks focused on how two trust funds operated by the United Nations and the World Bank can be made more effective. Conferees also discussed how to ensure that contributions out into the funds are used for reconstruction projects on the ground and not diverted elsewhere. But security remained the top issue.

"We identified security as the biggest challenge to overcome," said Japan's Akio Shirota, the conference chairman.

Iraq's planning minister, Madhi al-Hafidh, acknowledged the problem. But he said donors agreed to consider involving more Iraqis in the implementation of projects as an alternative to relying on foreigners, who are more likely to be targeted for kidnapning and other violence.

for kidnapping and other violence. Ross Mountain, a representative of the United Nations, warned that rebuilding Iraq will require patience.

"We should not believe in a quick fix, ne said.

Organizers stressed the meeting was not primarily aimed at drumming up new

pledges, but instead at giving Iraq's leaders a chance to explain their policies and for the donors to review the nation's progress.

Still, pledges came from Iran, which announced it will give \$10 million, and Denmark, which pledged \$4 million. New Zealand offered another \$940,000. The head of the European Commission delegation said the commission has proposed \$246 million for Iraq in its 2005 budget.

Russia, France and Germany, which opposed the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq last year, sent representatives to the donor conference for the first time. Though those countries have offered bilateral assistance, they have not put money through the international trust fund for Iraq.

The United States, which pledged \$18.4 billion in Madrid, has disbursed about \$3 billion for reconstruction so far, including about one-third in the past 12 weeks.

Surviving for a growing family

Marine recovering from Iraq injuries becomes father of quintuplets

BY DON BABWIN The Associated Press

CHICAGO - As Marine Sgt. Joshua Horton lay in a hospital bed across the ocean recovering from wounds he suffered in Iraq, his wife was in a maternity ward in suburban Illinois, making him a father five

Horton knew his wife was expecting quintuplets, but decided it was his duty to go to Iraq last month with Marines he helped train — even if it meant leaving his wife and two children behind.

"He was taking them into combat for the first time. He wanted to get them there safely and return," said Dean Fisher, the bishop of Horton's church in Oswego, a Chicago suburb

On Tuesday, a day after his wife Taunacv gave birth to three girls and two boys. Horton was back in the United States, but not with his family. He was transported from a hospital in Germany to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md

A Marine spokesman said Horton. 28. is expected to recover but was so heavily sedated that he probably was not yet aware

he is a father again.

At Edward Hospital outside Chicago, meanwhile, the quintuplets - each weighing less than 2 pounds - were in critical but stable condition.

Friends and relatives said Horton chose to put his life and family on hold to serve his country.

"This guy is my hero," said Bill Powell a lieutenant with the Aurora Police Department, where Horton is an officer.

Like many others, Horton felt he had to do something after terrorists struck the United States on Sept. 11. 2001. Horton had been in the Marines and his

wife had been in the Navy, and they thought one of them should volunteer for "They just both felt very strongly that ...

somebody needed to defend our country," said Taunacy Horton's stepmother. Anne

Even though they had two children, the couple agreed Horton would enlist in the Marine Reserves

> came news that Taunacy

> Horton who was tak-

ing fertility drugs in

the hopes of having a

third child, was preg-

nant with quintuplets

Chicago-based unit

was activated in June

for training in prepara-

tion for deployment to

Iraq, he had a decision

"One of his greatest

There are other moth-

When Sgt. Horton's

44 He has, quite frankly, two families: his wife and kids, and the Marines. He felt he had two obligations: one to

his family and one to

the other family. ??

Maj. Rick Coles

ers waiting for their Unit information officer sons to get home and I need to give some other men relief," "Fisher said. "Taunacy, as a military mother, she understood that and actually encour-

to make.

comments

Last Thursday Horton was in the Rahil province south of Baghdad when he was

hit with either shrapnel or bullets in his torso and right leg. The military told his family someone tossed a grenade near him when he was on a house-to-house search with a handful of Marines. Watts said.

Initially, doctors were concerned they might have to amputate Horton's right foot, but Maj. Rick Coates, the unit's information officer, said they are now confident that will not be necessary.

Coates didn't know how long Horton would remain in the Naval hospital before he could be transferred to Illinois.

Coates said that Horton's decision, as strange as it might sound to someone who has not been in the military, makes sense to those who have served.

"He has, quite frankly, two families: his wife and kids, and the Marines," he said. "He felt he had two obligations; one to his family and one to the other family."

When Taunacy Horton learned of her husband's injury last week, she was able to joke with Fisher about how her husband just couldn't stick to their plans.

When she went into labor a few days later, just 26 weeks into her pregnancy, she joked again with Fisher: "She said, 'Boy, no one is staving with the schedule.

Comrades remember specialist's sacrifice

20-vear-old Californian killed when convoy attacked in Iraq

BY STEVE LIEWER Stars and Stripes

Behind Spc. Morgen Jacobs' surfer-dude blond buzz cut, blue eyes and bright grin stood a soldier of strong nerve and fierce patriotism, say those who knew him

Friends and fellow soldiers gathered Wednesday at Ledward Barracks in Schweinfurt, Germany, to remember the 20-year-old Jacobs, of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, He died Oct. 7 of injuries suffered the day before when insurgents attacked his con vov with a homemade bomb and small-arms fire near Bavii, Iraq.

"What I will remember most about Spc. Jacobs is how enthusiastic and full of life this young man was," said 1st Lt. Jonathan St. Clair, Jacobs' platoon leader in Iraq, in a eulogy read at the ser-vice. "Whether he was explaining to me which kind of snowboard I should buy, how to remove the feeder from his Bradley, or talking about a recent trip he had taken, he was always someone who brightened your day and would put a smile on my face Jacobs grew up in Santa Cruz,

Calif., a voungster with many friends and many interests. He loved skim boarding, skateboarding, mountain-biking, baseball, basketball and golf, friends and family told his hometown newspaner, the Santa Cruz Sentinel,

No one ever expected he would



Spc. Morgen Jacobs

grow up to be a soldier, but the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, at the beginning of his senior year of high school, changed Jacobs' life forever. He enlisted the next summer, a few weeks after graduation, as an infantryman, despite the pleas of his family to choose a safer job.

"He was really, really proud," boyhood friend Dan Williamson, 19. told the Sentinel. "When we'd go out, he'd wear his uniform out. He would wear that with pride." In basic training at Fort Ben-

ning, Ga., the paper reported, Jacobs met Pat Tillman, the pro football player who gave up his lucra-



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Keith Wright stands at attention during the playing of taps at the end of the memorial service Wednesday in Schweinfurt, Germany, for Spc. Morgen Jacobs of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, who died after his convoy came under attack near Bavii, Iraq.

tive career to join the Army and was killed last April in Afghani-

Jacobs landed with Company B of the 1-18 Infantry in April 2003, in the midst of the Iraq invasion. He served as a Bradley gunner, Humvee driver and platoon armorer. After months of training, his unit deployed to Iraq on Feb. 10, where it was posted to Camp Summerall in Bavii as part of Task Force 1-7.

In Iraq, Jacobs completed more than 300 combat missions.

" 'Jake' was a guy that everyone liked to have around," recalled Sgt. 1st Class Jason Travis, Jacobs' platoon sergeant, who was with him when he was fatally injured. "He was smart, witty, at times crazy, and always dependable. He could get any job done that was given to him regardless of how difficult it was."

Jacobs was the gunner atop Travis' Humvee that night. The NCO credited Jacobs with saving his life when they were attacked.

"I cry every night knowing that

I am alive and you are not." Travis said in his emotional tribute. "I am so sorry that this terrible thing happened to you, and all I can do is admire and respect the sacrifice you made for the platoon and for me.

Jacobs is survived by his parents, Todd and Cindy, and his 12-year-old sister, Austin. A memorial service is scheduled Saturday in his hometown.

E-mail Steve Liewer at:

liewers@mail.estrines.osd.mil

Army: More GIs face prison abuse charges

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Up to 28 U.S. soldiers face possible criminal charges in connection with the deaths of two prisoners at an American-run prison in Afghanistan two

years ago, the Army announced Thursday. The most serious potential charges include involuntary manslaughter and maiming, the Army said in a statement,

Its announcement marked completion of a nearly 2-year-old investigation into the deaths. The Army's Criminal Investigation Division recommends various charges against the 28, with some facing more seri-

ous charges than others. So far, only one person, a military police nection the deaths. Sgt. James P. Boland of the Army Reserve's 377th Military Policy Company was charged Aug. 23 with assault and dereliction of duty.

For the other 27, their commanding offic-ers will make the final call on whether they face a court-martial, administrative disci-

pline or no disciplinary action.

The deaths, in early December 2002. were ruled homicides by U.S. military medical examiners.

In the first case Mullah Habibullah about 28, died of "pulmonary embolism due to blunt force injuries to the legs," according to doctors. He was in detention at Bagram. Afghanistan. Previous reports said he died Dec. 3; the Army's announcement Thursday put his death as Dec. 4.

han identified only as Dilawar, 22, died in ghan identified only as Dilawar, 22, and an U.S. custody at Bagram. Doctors blamed his death on "blunt force injuries to lower extremities complicating coronary artery disease."

Others who are expected to face charges are from the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion. Some members of the 519th went from Afghanistan to Iraq in 2003 and are among those accused by Army investigators of abusing Iraqi detainees in the fall

The Boland charge sheet lists one count of dereliction of duty in connection with Habibullah's death

The sheet says Boland, who was a guard at the Bagram prison, was derelict "in that ble inefficiency" failed to take corrective a tion against another soldier who struck Habibullah while he was restrained. The name of the other soldier was blacked out for privacy reasons; his rank was specialist.

The other charges are in connection with Dilawar's death. Boland is accused of dereliction of duty for failing to seek medical treatment for the prisoner, "who was visibly in need of medical care and later died." according to the charge sheet.

Roland also is charged with maltreating Dilawar "by shackling him in a standing po sition with hands suspended above shoulder level for a prolonged period of time." An alternate charge of assault is listed, citing the same description of a prolonged shackling of Dilawar.

Report says real war doesn't match expectations based on technology

The Iraq War was supposed to be a preview of the new U.S. military: a light, swift force that relies as much on sensors and communications networks as on heavy armor and huge num-

But once the shooting started, technology fell far short of expectations, according to a forthcoming, largely-classified re-port by the think tank RAND Corporation.

Portions of the report were obtained by Technology Review, a monthly magazine produced by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

During the war, much of the new digital firepower convinced many in the Pentagon that the war could be fought with a far smaller force than the one it expected to encoun-

But, Technology Review reports, one key node fell off the IIS intelligence network the front-line troops

Among front-line commanders like Army Lt. Col. Ernest "Rock" Marcone, a battalion

But once the shooting started, technology fell far short of expectations. according to a forthcoming, largely-classified report by the think tank RAND Corporation.

commander with the 69th Armor of the 3rd Infantry Division - as well as his counterparts in the U.S. Marines -"Everybody said the same thing. It was a universal comment: 'We had terrible situational awareness," he said. The same verdict was delivered after the first Gulf War's ground battle, but experts had hoped the more robust technology would solve the problem

Some units outran the range

tions relays. Downloads took hours. Software locked up. And the enemy was sometimes difficult to see in the first place. As the Marines' own "lessons learned" report puts it, "The [First Marine] Division found the enemy by running into them, much as forces have done since the beginning of war-

In theory, information isn't merely power. It's armor, too. Tanks weighing 64 metric tons could be largely phased out, giving way to lightly armored vehicles—at first, the new 17-metric-ton Stryker troop carrier-that can avoid heavy enemy fire if need be.

"But the vision of all this is to tally dependent on information technologies and the network,' Stuart Johnson, a research professor at the Center for Technology and National Security Policy at National Defense University in Washington, told the magazine. "If that part of the equation breaks down, what you have are small, less capable battle platforms that are more vul-

Bill would allow TSP changes year-round

BY SANDRA JONTZ Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. - Congress is attempting to revamp rules to the Thrift Savings Plan with legislation that would abolish the "open season" and let participants join or make changes any

time they'd like.

Both houses of Congress have passed respective bills to get rid of the enrollment period restricted to the two open seasons a year.

But the bills differ in one way that separates the cost between the two by about \$1 billion over the next 10 years, according to Congressional Budget Office estimates, causing a delay.

Meantime, the next open sea-son for the TSP kicks off Friday. giving participants until the end of the year to enroll or make any changes to their plans. The TSP is the federal government's version of the civilian work world's 401(k) retirement and investment savings program. Earnings are tax deferred until participants withdraw money, usually after re-

The plan to eliminate open sea-The plan to eliminate open seasons "is a good thing" for participants, said TSP spokesman Tom Trabucco. "They give people more freedom. For instance, the open season that allows them to elect to contribute or adjust their contributions happens twice a year. Often, employees may get a step increase or a pay increase and must wait until the open season to make any investments or changes, he said. "The bills allow them to make that election welcome and support both bills.

The House version differs in that employers would begin adding matching contributions imme-diately for the civilian employees enrolled in the Federal Employ ees Retirement System, or FERS. The change outlined in the House version would have no impact on uniformed personnel since they do not have agency-matching con

Federal agencies match dollar-for-dollar the first 3 percent of participants' contribution, and 50 cents on the dollar for the 4th and 5th percent. Those covered by FERS can contribute up to 15 percent their basic pay each pay peri-od, up to the IRS cap of \$14,000. Agencies automatically contrib-

tributions, Trabucco said.

ute an amount equal to 1 percent of employees' salaries to a "G Fund" TSP account in the employee's name when that employee elects not to participate.

Uniformed personnel can con-tribute up to 9 percent of basic pay and 100 percent of any incentive or special pay

According to CBO estimates, the House version will cost \$1.1 billion over 10 years, compared to the Senate version at \$30 million over the same period. Both hous es are working on the Senate ver-sion of the bill, S2479.

Because of the differences in the two bills, the measure has been sent to conference to have lawmakers iron out a final piece of legislation.

Representatives from lawmakers' offices on both sides have said they hope the matter will be resolved before Congress ad-journs in November.

"Sen. [Daniel] Akaka hopes the TSP bill is passed, and Congress does the right thing for federal employees," said Paul Cardus, spokesman for the democratic senator from Hawaii. "He is aware of the cost differences and understands the federal deficit and the nation's financial situation does not allow for the House version at this time. It would be fiscally imprudent to take action on the House version."

In the interest of abolishing the open-season requirement, the House might adopt the Senate version because of the lower price tag, said Rep. Tom Davis, R-Va., chairman of the House Government Reform Committee.

The Senate bill is co-sponsored by Akaka and Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine

"Elimination of the open seasons in the Thrift Savings Plan is a top priority, both for myself and Sen. Collins, and we expect to have a bill to the President by close of the 108th Congress," Davis said. "The House bill repre-sents the ideal in that it eliminates open seasons for both employee and employer contribu-tions, however, the ultimate goal is to get legislation that can pass through both houses."

More information is at: www.tsp.gov or calling the ThriftLine at 1-TSP-YOU-FRST (877) 968-3778. Callers outside the U.S. can dial (504) 255-8777, not toll-free.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at:

Military ID theft

NORFOLK, Va. - Lawyers for a sailor accused of identity theft involving more than 20 officers aboard the carrier USS George Washington have until Monday to file objections before a judge begins deliberating the charges The accusations against Petty

Officer 3rd Class Curtis L. Phil lips, 28, were outlined at an Article 32 hearing, the military's version of a grand jury proceeding.

Lt. Mark Takla, the govern-ment's attorney, said Phillips' actions resulted in the theft of more than \$250,000 worth of property - luxury cars, a motorcycle and merchandise.

Phillips, who has been with the Navy for four years, is from the Baltimore area, and is stationed aboard the USS George Washington. The carrier returned in July to Norfolk from a six-month de ployment to the Persian Gulf From The Associated Press

to increase in November Stars and Stripes The interest rate for the Mili-

Military STAR card rate

tary STAR card will go up to 9.75 percent — from 9.5 percent starting with the November billing period, Army and Air Force Exchange officials announced Tuesday

AAFES spokeswoman Army Sgt. 1st Class Amanda Glenn said the hike is based on the Federal Reserve's rate increase. The Federal Reserve announced Sept. 21 that it would raise the prime rate to 4.75 percent. The Military STAR card's interest is the prime rate plus 5 percent.

"This affects interest rates across the board." Glenn said.

Customers will receive notification of the rate change in their October statements.

New purchases after the Noember billing period constitute acceptance of the revised interest rate, according to an AAFES news release.

The rate increase does not apply to Military Clothing Plans. special promotions already in existence or to customers on deployment whose balances are treated under special conditions or have balances at reduced

The STAR card can be used at all AAFES, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Exchanges.

IN THE WORLD

Afghan vote count starts Commission says Bosnian Serbs killed

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan - Vote counting in Afghanistan's presidential election got under way Thursday, five days after a landmark vote meant to cement a new era of stability after more than two decades of strife

A ton election official said about three-quarters of the 10.5 million Afghans who registered for the election turned out to vote - despite threats of violence

Ballot boxes have flooded in to the counting centers by road, air and even donkey from across the rugged, impoverished country

The head of the Afghan-U.N. electoral commission cut the seal on the first box opened in the capital, Kabul, to begin the tallying process to determine the coun try's first popularly elected head of state.

Counting also started in four regional centers: the northern cities of Kunduz and Mazar-e-Sharif, eastern Gardez and the main southern city of Kandahar.

The remaining three counting centers were expected to begin work by Saturday. U.N. spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva said 95 percent of the ballot boxes have reached the counting cen-

Reginald Austin, the top adviser to the joint election commis-sion, said the first "substantial" results could emerge in about a

Austin said initial information from polling stations indicated that "nearly eight million" people cast ballots, a turnout of between 75 and 80 percent.

Karzai, who enjoys strong international backing and is seeking to bridge the war-rayaged nation's deep ethnic divides, is widely be-



An Afghan election worker sorts ballot papers at Kabul's counting cen-

ter on Thursday. lieved to have won, possibly with the absolute majority needed to

avoid a run-off Officials had stalled the start of vote counting while a panel of foreign experts sifted through several dozen complaints of alleged ir-

regularities from the 16 candidates, including front-running. U.S.-backed incumbent Hamid None of their complaints ap-

pear serious enough to invalidate final results expected by Oct. 31. Some ballot boxes have not been retrieved yet from far-flung regions, and the count may take time even after they do. Most election workers have received only a

few hours of training. The chances for a solid result improved following the appointment of a panel of three foreign experts to investigate complaints from Karzai's rivals.

The election was a clear triumph for the massive security operation mounted to protect it from

Aggressive security

WASHINGTON - Personnel from a private U.S. security firm in Afghanistan have engaged in "aggressive behavior" while protecting President Hamid Karzai, the State Depart-ment said Wednesday.

Snokesman Richard Roucher said U.S. concerns about inap propriate activities by some guards from the firm, DynCorp, have been passed on to compa

Mike Dickerson, of the Computer Sciences Corp., the par-ent company of DynCorp, said the firm's employees are work-ing closely with State Depart-ment officials to do "the best possible job in a very difficult, dangerous and challenging environment

The State Department has been responsible for Karzai's protection since 2002. DynCorp personnel have assisted them.

7,000 Muslim males

BY IRENA GAJIC The Associated Press

BANJA LUKA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Bosnian Serb forces killed more than 7,000 Muslim men and boys at Srebrenica, a Bosnian Serb commission conceded Thursday in its final report on the 1995 massacre.

Bosnian Muslim officials claim that up to 8,000 men and boys were killed at Srebrenica in July 1995, when Serb troops overran the U.N.-declared safe zone in Eurone's worst massacre of civilians since World War II.

Although the report gave a lower estimate of the number of victims, the panel's vice presi-dent, Smail Cekic, told The Associated Press the figure was not

"That is hard to achieve because differences in sources Cekic said. "That is still an open question."

The Bosnian Serb government formed the commission of judges and lawyers last year to investigate who was responsible. Its final report includes information on the location of 34 mass grave where some of the victims are presumed to have been buried. Cekic said.

So far, the remains of about 18,000 victims from different ethnic groups who died in the 1992-95 war have been exhumed from more than 300 mass graves across the country.

U.N. and Muslim experts have found the remains of about 5,000 victims from mass graves in eastern Rosnia and discover new remains every month. The fate of the others is still unknown. Nearly 1,200 Srebrenica victims have been identified through DNA analysis.

Although Bosnian Serbs long have been blamed for the massacre, it was not until this past June - following the Srebrenica commission's preliminary report that Serb officials acknowledged for the first time that their security forces carried out the slaugh-

Bosnian Serb wartime leader Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, his top general, are wanted for genocide and crimes against humanity for the Srebrenica killings and other atrocities.

Karadzic is believed to be hiding in the half of Bosnia controlled by the Serbs, while Mladic is thought to be hiding in Serbia.

Both were indicted in 1995 by the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, for their alleged roles in the Srebrenica massacre and for the Serbs' three-year siege of Sarajevo during the war.

The peace agreement that ended the war in Bosnia left the country divided into a Bosnian Serb mini-state and a Muslim-Croat federation. Both have separate governments, police and army and are linked only by joint state institutions.

The Bosnian war - which pitted Serbs opposed to Bosnia's independence from the former Yugoslavia against Muslims and Croats backing it - claimed about 260,000 lives and left around 20,000 missing and presumed dead.

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EU backs passage of U.S. corporate tax bill

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Union welcomed final passage in the U.S. Congress of a bill repealing corporate subsidies ruled illegal by the World Trade Organization, but said Thursday it was too soon to lift punitive tariffs on U.S. goods.

EU trade spokeswoman Arancha Gonzalez also said the EU was con-cerned about the bill's transition period, until 2007, for ending the subsidies as well as "grandfathering clauses" allowing some beneficiaries of the breaks to continue receiving them.

Albanian bus crash kills at least 14

TIRANA, Albania - A bus carrying high school students from Kosovo back from an excursion crashed into another vehicle and tumbled off a cliff in northern Albania on Thursday, killing at least 14 passengers and injuring up to three dozen others, police and health officials said.

The bus was bringing about 50 teenagers back to neighboring Kosovo

after a field trip in Albania when it went over the cliff in Fushe Arrez. 105 miles north of the capital. Tirana, a police spokeswoman said.

Raid produces Ecstasy stash in Estonia

TALLINN, Estonia - Estonian police discovered more than 300,000 tablets of Ecstasy in a raid on a suspected drug laboratory, officials said Thursday.

The drug lab raided Wednesday in southwestern Estonia had been under surveillance for months. Eight people were arrested.

Terror group's assets frozen

LONDON — The Bank of England is ordering a freeze on any assets belonging to a terrorist group that claimed responsibility for kidnapping and beheading two Americans and a Briton in Iraq, Treasury chief Gordon Brown said Thursday.

Brown told lawmakers in the House of Commons that he instructed the bank to direct all financial institutions in Britain to freeze any assets of the Tawhid and Jihad group led by Jordanian Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. From The Associated Press

Taiwan denies experimenting with plutonium

BY STEPHAN GRAUWELS The Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan - Taiwan on Thursday denied that the island's nuclear weapons program — abandoned in the 1980s — involved experimenting with sepa-

rating plutonium. Diplomats in Vienna, Austria, said on Wednesday that inspectors with the International Atomic Energy Agency have found samples indicating that plutonium experiments were done about 20 years ago in Taiwan.

But Yang Chao-yie, deputy chairman of the Taiwanese Cabi-net's Atomic Energy Council, said the experiments didn't happen. Scientists only researched

the possibility of making nuclear arms, Yang said.

"We never made any plutonium separation experiments, not in the 1980s, and not earlier," Yang said. "The program was just research," he said, without elaborating. The plutonium produced inside a nuclear reactor needs to be separated and purified before it can be used in a nuclear weap-

Officials at the Vienna-based IAEA said they would not com-ment on the remarks by the diplomats, who spoke on condition of

anonymity The nuclear project — which started in the 1960s, stopped in the 1970s and was briefly revived in the 1980s — has long been common knowledge on the island.

Andrew Yang, a defense analyst at the Chinese Council of Advanced Policy Studies, a Taipei think tank, said the Taiwanese scientists were trying to process plu-

tonium before the project was shut down under U.S. pressure. It was closed shortly after a Taiwanese military officer, Chang Hsien-yi, defected to America in 1988 with information about the program, the analyst said.

Atomic Energy Council Deputy Chairman Yang said the government now has a policy of complete openness with the IAEA inspectors

"We completely agree to all the requests the inspectors make, wherever they want to go, when-

anything," he said.

The agency's inspections and testing were being conducted as part of voluntary extra controls on Taiwan's peaceful nuclear program agreed to by the govern-

But the official said the most recent visit by IAEA inspectors was in August, and it was a routine trip to nuclear plants and a research institute.

Last May, inspectors also came to Taiwan to check whether the island was being transparent enough with its nuclear informa-

In the future, the number of vis-

its will be reduced because Taiwan is installing remote-control monitoring equipment in sensi tive locations next year, Yang said

"The inspectors will be able to find the information they want from their seats in Vienna," he

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Oivue said China is investigating reports, but can't comment until more is known. Any Taiwanese nuclear weapons program would have been developed with its main rival China in mind

The two sides split amid civil war more than five decades ago, but China has continued to claim the self-ruled island as its own, and has threatened the use of force if Taiwan declares formal independence.

Even as gas prices soar, 'Britons won't give up their cars'

BY THOMAS WAGNER The Associated Press

LONDON - In Britain, drivers pay nearly three times what Americans do for gasoline at the pump, and the high taxes that cause the huge difference have never managed to achieve one of the government's main goals; reducing the number of cars on the road.

But they have dramatically increased the number of small, fuel-efficient cars that Britons drive, and as oil prices continue to climb on world markets, some Britons believe the gas-guzzling United States has to find a way of doing that too.

"Big cars are part of the culture over there. They've got to get out of that mind set," said Rob Sur-, 26, a film location specialist who pulled up at a Texaco station in central London in a Fiat Brayo on

Tuesday. "Every country has to take responsibility for the globe's environment. The Kyoto Accord is at one end of that duty. The amount of gas you use in your car is at the other.

In America, consumers now spend an average of \$1.94 for a gallon for regular fuel. In Britain, that price is \$5.66, making it some of the world's most ex-

pensive gas. For years, British governments have repeatedly raised gas taxes, often over the rate of inflation, with several goals in mind: reducing the number of driv-

ers, improving the environment and raising revenue. Today, about 75 percent of the price at the pump is tax, compared to an average of about 22 percent



A filling station near Reading, England, on Tuesday reflects the record oil prices on both sides of the Atlantic, adding to growing concern that the wider economy may suffer.

in the United States in August. In Britain, where new cars are often expensive, drivers also must pay a heavy sales tax when they buy one, and an annual fee for a driver's permit. On top of that, insurance for drivers is mandatory

People who buy small, fuel-efficient cars are re-warded with a lower sales tax, and such a move can even reduce the amount of income tax that an employee pays for a common perk in the United King-

lom: buying one's own company car.

In addition, Britain is a country whose outmoded and overcrowded trains and subways can sometimes be frustrating.

"Britons won't give up their cars, no matter what the gas price is. They're used to it," said Michael Balla-Goddard, 52, an architect who was filling his Saah at the Tevaco station

"Besides, London subways reduce one to a sardine in a tin can during rush hour.'

up its tent only a few feet away from his house out-

Bank robber in Slovakia stinks BRATISLAVA, Slovakia - Slovaks were on the

lookout for a foul-smelling bank robber Thursday after police said the thief had a nasty odor.
A gun-toting, masked man in his 20s, clad in a

green sweat shirt, robbed a bank in the capital and took some 461 000 koruna about \$14 000 Tosevova said it was unclear whether the smell

was caused by the thief having stepped into dog droppings or whether he soiled himself during the

Circus elephants trample lawn

STOCKHOLM, Sweden - A homeowner in southern Sweden filed a police complaint after four circus elephants broke loose from their trainers and ran into his back yard, trampling the hedge and the lawn, a police spokesman said Thursday. Mattias Lindell, 29, said the elephants complete-

ly ruined his garden Monday, after animal trainers working for German-based Circus Mustang lost control of the pachyderms when removing them from the vehicles they travel in. The circus had put

side Helsingborg, on Sweden's southwestern coast. Lindell said

Circus Mustang officials could not be reached

EU court backs ban on laser tag

The European Union's top court Thursday backed a German ban on laser-tag games in which players simulate killing each other in a maze

"The affront to human dignity posed by that ac-tivity justifies a restriction on the freedom to pro-vide services," the European Court of Justice

Police in the German city of Bonn in 1994 had prohibited a German company, Omega Spielhallen- und Automatenaustellungs-GmbH, from operating a "Laserdrome," a game developed and marketed by a British supplier.

German authorities argued that "acts of simulat-ed homicide and the ensuing trivialization of violence" violated the principle of human dignity enshrined in the German constitution.

From The Associated Press

U.N.: Africa to brace for AIDS time bomb

By Anthony Mitchell The Associated Press

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia rica must brace itself for an AIDS time bomb as 8,000 people are in-fected with HIV a day in the region worst hit by the pandemic.

the United Nations warned Thurs Seventy nement of the 45 mil-

lion people worldwide infected with HIV live in sub-Saharan Africa - even though the region is home to only 11 percent of the world's population, said a fund set up to combat three of the world's most devastating diseas-

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria said that per capita growth in half of the countries in sub-Saharan Africa is falling by 0.5 to 1.2 percent each year as a direct result of AIDS. By 2010, per capita GDP in some of the hardest-hit countries may drop by 8 percent and per capita consumption may fall even farther, the Geneva-based fund said

"If we think we are seeing an impact today, we have to brace ourselves because it is set to get very much worse in the future, warned Alan Whiteside, member of a commission set up by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to deal with HIV/AIDS and governance in Africa.

The Commission on HIV/AIDS

and Governance in Africa is calling for a massive scaling up of treatment to prevent a dooms-day-style scenario with the col-lapse of societies under the weight of the pandemic.

Just 50,000 Africans have access to life-prolonging antiretroviral drugs while at least 4 million people are in need, the 20-member commission told several hundred health experts and politicians in the Ethiopian capital. Addis Ababa

The Global Fund say that the disease is already claiming the lives of thousands of teachers and leading to school closures across sub-Saharan Africa. Health care systems in many countries are overwhelmed by a growing number of HIV/AIDS patients, and studies forecast that health care costs in hardest-hit countries may increase tenfold over the next sev eral years as a result of the nan-

Former Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, whose son died of an AIDS-related illness in 1986, made an impassioned apneal to the international community to help the world's poorest con-

"African governments do not have the capacity to sustain treatment programs at national level, Kaunda said. "They need the support and assistance of the international community in order to scale up treatment programs in a sustainable manner.

Uzbek police hunt for potential bomber

BY AZIZ NURITOV The Associated Press TASHKENT, Uzbekistan

Uzbek police are searching for a Kazakh woman who allegedly underwent terror training as a sui-cide bomber and could be planning an attack, officials said Thursday.

Wanted posters in the capital, Tashkent, displayed a photograph of the woman from southern Kazakhstan and warned she may be in possession of an explo-sives-laden belt.

Tashkent nolice's anti-terrorism department, said authorities had received information from neighboring countries that the woman was missing from her home and had possibly crossed into Uzbekistan

Oleg Bichenov, who heads the

Meanwhile, Surat Ikramov, an independent rights activist, said Thursday that authorities have arrested relatives of those convicted last week for their alleged role in attacks earlier this year that killed 47 people.

IN THE STATES

Bush camp admits, shrugs off, Kerry debate gains

Polls after intense, 3rd debate show candidates in virtual tie

BY SCOTT LINDLAW The Associated Press

TEMPE, Ariz. - Sen. John Kerry gained ground in the race for the White House in the trio of campaign debates, a top official in President Bush's campaign conceded Thursday, but insisted that any advantage would prove fleeting

"I think it was temporary," Marc Racicot, Bush's campaign chairman, told reporters on the morning after the president and Kerry collided in an intense final debate that sharpened differenc-es over the war in Iraq, the economy, health care and abortion.

Racicot spoke as Bush and his Democratic rival set out on a 19-day campaign sprint to Elec-tion Day, concentrating their time and advertising on a dozen or so battleground states that will settle the election. The ubiquitous polls made their race a virtual dead heat

The Democratic Party was quick to publicize what it called a debate "threepeat" for Kerry, launching two mocked Bush's two videos that performance One shows Bush talking about Osama bin Laden and telling White House reporters, am not that concerned about him. I know he is on the run," then denying during the debate that he had ever said it.

The other video shows Bush laughing when asked about uninsured Americans.

Bush played down negative reviews of his debate performanc-

es.
"The pundits and the spinners their opinions but they all have their opinions but there's only one opinion that matters and that's the oninion of the American people on Nov. 2," he told reporters during a rare visit to the press cabin on Air Force One. "I feel great about where we

"My spirits are high," Bush de-ared. "I'm enthusiastic about my chances.'

For undecided voters. Wednesday night's debate was a chance to comparison-shop. Kerry cast himself as champion of the little guy and Bush the guardian of the wealthy, branding the president as reckless with the federal budget and the use of American

Bush labeled Kerry a do-noth-ing liberal senator with questionable credibility and an insatiable appetite for taxes.

Both candidates said they believe marriage should remain a union of a man and a woman but that gay Americans should be treated with respect. Kerry cited Mary Cheney, the vice presi-dent's openly gay daughter and an official in the campaign, as a lesbian who probably would say being gay is not a matter of

That drew a rebuke at a nost-debate rally from Lynne Cheney. the vice president's wife. She called Kerry "not a good man" and his reference to her daughter cheap and tawdry political

Bush seemed to find his stride after two debates that most viewers and analysts thought he lost. He stifled most of the facial exssions that marred his first performance, ending each answer with a smile, though the camera occasionally captured him dropping it abruptly a few seconds later. After letting his voice rise to a shout during the second debate, Bush toned it down sneaking more softly

Kerry was seen as the winner in two of three post-debate polls, while the third found the two tied.Assessing all the debates combined, Racicot said Kerry "did provide himself some tempo rary assistance with the first debate that got more leavened in the second debate and then began to dissipate at a whatever unknown rate with last night's performance

"I just think he was on his heels most of the night," he added.





Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry, left, and President Bush respond to questions during the third and final presidential debate Wednesday night in Tempe, Ariz.

Hot topics: Health care, economy

BY DAN BALZ AND JIM VANDEHEI The Washington Post

TEMPE, Ariz. - President Bush and John Kerry battled sharply over domestic issues Wednesday night in the final debate of the 2004 campaign. The Democratic nominee charged that the president has compiled a record of failure on the economy and health care, and Bush ac-cused Kerry of a Senate record that is both out of the mainstream

and lacking in accomplishment. Kerry repeatedly sought to put Bush on the defensive, charging that he has allowed the economy to go backward, has turned budget surpluses into deficits and has stood by as millions of Americans have lost their health insurance.

The president tried to parry those attacks by challenging Kerry's record during his 20 years in

the Senate, accusing him of repeatedly voting to raise taxes, of failing to do anything significant to reform health care and of favorhealth care changes that would greatly enhance the federal government's power

"He's ... the only president in 72 years to lose jobs — 1.6 million jobs lost," Kerry said. "He's the only president to have incomes of families go down for the last three years, the only president to see exports go down, the only president to see the lowest level of business investment in our country as it is today. Now, I'm going to reverse that. I'm going to change that. We're going to restore the fiscal discipline we had in the 1990s

Bush scoffed at Kerry's statements, saying: "His rhetoric doesn't match his record. He's been a senator for 20 years. He voted to increase taxes 98 times. When they tried to reduce taxes, he voted against that 127 times He talks about being a fiscal conservative, or fiscally sound, but he voted over -- he voted 277 times to waive the budget caps, which would have cost the taxpayers \$4.2 trillion."

Amid the exchange of charges and countercharges, Bush and Kerry spoke personally about the role of faith and religion in their lives and how that animates their view of governing. They also occasionally played fast and loose with facts and each repeatedly charged the other with distortions and inaccuracies.

The latest Washington Post-ABC News tracking poll, completed before the debate, showed Kerry at 49 percent and Bush at 48 percent among likely voters - the first time Kerry has been ahead in that poll since

With the debates behind them the candidates will begin a three-week run that will take them through fewer than a dozen truly competitive battleground states as they attempt to appeal to the relatively small pool of undecided votersand mobilize their strongest supporters for a wide spread get-out-the-vote opera-

The debate, held at Arizona State University and moderated by Bob Schieffer of CBS News, covered broad terrain, with the candidates discussing Social Security, education, gun control, affirmative action, same-sex marriage, immigration, abortion and the lack of flu vaccine.

The heart of the debate was bread-and-butter issues, with Kerry arguing that Bush has favored the wealthy over the middle class with tax cuts and the president warning middle-class voters that a Kerry administration would mean higher taxes not only on the wealthy but on average Americans as well, describing Kerry's talk as "bait and switch" politics.

In one of the sharpest exchanges, Kerry warned that Bush's plan to allow workers to put a small percentage of their Social Security taxes into private investment accounts is "an invitation to disaster" that would cost too much and be too risky. Bush has not detailed a plan, but experts say any plan to partly privatize the system would carry a short-term cost of at least \$1 trillion and perhaps twice that amount to make up for the shortfall during the transition.

Bush said Kerry's plan to do nothing would be far more dangerous.

"I want to warn my fellow citizens: The cost of doing nothing, the cost of saying the current system is OK, far exceeds the costs of trying to make sure we save the system for our children,

Nader flap prompts request to extend deadline for overseas absentee votes

HARRISBURG, Pa. - A federal judge will hear arguments next week on a request by the Justice Department to give military families and overseas voters in Pennsylvania until after the Nov. 2 election to submit absentee ballots for president

U.S. District Judge Yvette Kane set the hearing for Tuesday after a state court knocked Ralph Nader off Pennsylvania's presidential ballot

The judge had initially declined to rule on the request until state courts resolved whether Nader could be listed on the ballot as an independent presidential candidate. On Wednesday, a state court removed Nader

from the ballot, citing thousands of fraudulent signatures including "Mickey Mouse" and "Fred Flintstone.



had asked that voters he given extra time to cast ballots because of confusion over Nader's candidacy. The Justice Department

contended that Nader's on-again-off-again status caused some counties last month to mail ballots that listed him as a candidate while others sent ballots that omitted his name

An extension of the deadline for overseas ballots could delay the tabulation of the presidential vote if the contest for Pennsylvania's 21 electoral votes - the nation's fifth-largest prize - is as close as some polls suggest.

Accuracy of some statements debatable

BY CALVIN WOODWARD The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The last presidential debate highlighted words President Bush forgot he had spoken, a meeting John Kerry thought never happened, but did, and a refusal on both sides to back off questionable statements that have practically become classics through repetition.

Kerry claimed once more that Bush has lost 1.6 million jobs. about twice as many as have actually disappeared. The persistent discrepancy comes from his not saying that the losses he speaks of are in the private sector, and are mitigated by job gains in public service. He let go of another regular misstatement, however, this time using an accurate figure on the cost of the Iraq war.

Bush again declared of his opponent. "He voted to increase taxes 98 times," which should not be taken at all to mean Kerry has

Fact is, both candidates found ways to stretch truth

voted for that many tax increases Independent analysis has found the list of 98 includes multiple votes for single measures and votes that set targets without hav-ing any effect on the tax code.

Beyond those familiar features of the debates ads and more the candidates slipped or stretched in fresh ways in their final encoun-

ter before the Nov. 2 election. Kerry accurately quoted Bush as saying he does not think much about Osama bin Laden and is not all that concerned about him. The president protested: "I just don't think I ever said I'm not worried about Osama bin Laden, It's kind of one of those exaggerations."

But in March 2002, Bush in-deed said. "I truly am not that concerned about him. I know he is on the run." He described the terror-ist leader as "marginalized," and "I just don't spend that said. much time on him."

Kerry, trying to show Bush has naid too little heed to civil rights stated flatly. "This is a president who hasn't met with the black congressional caucus." Actually, Bush met the Congressional Black Caucus at the White House within two weeks of taking office. and called his opponent on it.

Also in the debate:

■ Kerry declared, "I have a plan to cover all Americans" with health insurance, but even his campaign does not contend his blueprint would eliminate the ranks of the uninsured Independent analysts say full implementation of Kerry's plan would extend coverage to about 25 million of the nearly 45 million uninsured.

He also said Bush has cut Pell grants, but later altered the accusation when the president pointed out accurately that about 1 million more students are getting the aid than when he took office ■ Bush talked about how he

signed the bill creating the Homeland Security Department, putting that on his list of actions that have made the country safer. But he was a convert to that cause, at first opposing the massive government reorganization.

Kerry reverted to what is believed to be the accurate figure for the cost of the Iraq war so far, after he and his running mate John Edwards had been suggesting \$200 billion had already been ■ Kerry sharply criticized

Bush on port security inspections of ship cargo, saying "95 percent come in today uninspected. That's not good enough.' Kerry's claim ignores that the

manifests of all U.S.-bound cargo are screened before they reach

cargo is identified. U.S. officials then physically inspect the

On whether the inspections are adequate, a new report by the Homeland Security Department internal investigator that surfaced Wednesday concluded federal inspectors of oceangoing shipping containers still need to improve their detection equipment and search procedures to prevent terrorists from sneaking weapons of mass destruction into the United States.

■ Bush acknowledged his current support for a constitutional amendment mandating marriage as a union between a man and a woman without acknowledging that back in the 2000 Republican primary, he said the issue of banning gay marriage belonged to the states. It's a position Vice President Dick Cheney still holds

Associated Press writer Siobhan McDon-ough contributed to this report.

Lovers and haters: Views of Bush will decide election

By MICHAEL TACKETT Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON - After the third and final debate of this presidential campaign, the race in many ways can be reduced to this: a contest between the lovers and the haters.

The lovers are those who hold reat affection for George W. Bush, his philosophy of government, his socially conservative beliefs and his resolve on issues like Iraq and the war on terror. The haters are those who can't stand the president for precisely the same rea-

Analysis

There

been grand embrace of challenger John Kerry, and even in the waning days before the election, a Kerry agenda is still not easy to

But if the country were electing a debater-in-chief, after three rounds, most would give the title to the Democrat.

His performances were more even and consistent, his presentation of facts and command of issues more clear. On this night, his burden was obvious: to persuade people to deny the president a second term, to point out with precision what the haters hate most

The motivation to vote against someone is often more powerful than the desire to vote for someone, and in that sense, the president faces a perilous finish to the campaign. He will be relying on his legion of lovers and hope that the haters have hit the wall. He is still stoking the energy of Republican partisans, painting Kerry with the familiar "out of the main-stream" brush, while Kerry stream" brush, while Kerry seems to believe there are still people to be won over in the increasingly small lane in the middle of the road, especially undecided women voters. The 90-minute session focused

almost entirely on the issues that form the fault lines of American



Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., and President faced off Wednesday for the third and final presidential debate in Tempe, Ariz.

politics - abortion, affirmative action, gay marriage, faith, taxes and the role of government in health care and education On each of those issues, the debate served to outline distinct differences between the two men.

Of all the things that voters might say they lack when they cast ballots in November, a clear choice should not be one of them.

The incumbent president in a time of war and a troubled economy faced the greater challenge to defend his record. There were simply more targets for Kerry to

attack. But the president also played on the dangers the nation faces as part of his contention that a chance for Kerry is not a chance worth taking

Yet the president was put on the defensive several times, especially about the economy. Asked what he might say to a worker who had lost a job to outsourcing to a foreign country with lower wages, the president responded that education was the best kind of government jobs program in the long run. How that will play in states like Ohio. Pennsylvania

and Missouri, which have lost tens of thousands of manufacturing jobs, is unclear.

On social issues, the president was far clearer in ways that will no doubt help him energize Renublican partisans, but might be unlikely to win over many in the shrinking pool of undecided vot-ers. He said he didn't know if homosexuality were a "choice" as opposed to a birthright, but he re-iterated his call for a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage. In addition, he refused the chance to say that a woman had a

That provided a clear opening to Kerry to appeal to women votwhom polls suggest have been gravitating toward the Dem-ocrat since the first debate in Coral Gables, Fla., last month. Kerry said he would only support a justice to the Supreme Court who believed in the constitutional right to an abortion

Each candidate clearly entered the debate with a couple of loaded lines that they were ready to fire off at an appropriate moment.

Neither man's effort was partic-ularly successful, but the president's almost-forced efforts to caricature Kerry as a Massachusetts liberal to the left of Sen. Ted Kennedy appeared to fall decidedly flat, except to the hard-core partisans who can never hear enough of that kind of talk.

They no doubt also enjoyed

Bush's dig at the integrity of the major broadcast network news operations. For his part, Kerry's analogy to Tony Soprano is unlikely to be part of any permanent de-bate highlight reel either.

Wednesday's debate in Tempe likely signaled the last big national moment of the campaign, the final time when millions of Americans paid intense attention to the race. The candidates are likely to revert to rote of their stump speeches and the grind of travel from tarmac to tarmac, narrowcast to hit as many select television markets as possible. Good morning, Dayton. Good morning, Incumbents who don't win de

 Gerald Ford in 1976, Jimmy Carter in 1980 and George H.W. Bush in 1992 — haven't fared well on Election Day. There is a presumption in the electorate that presidents are supposed to be able to perform on television under pressure.

They are supposed to be able

not only to defend their term in office but also to persuade that they deserve another. The president has three more weeks to make that case

Snail-mail ballots a hit with Oregon voters

BY BRAD CAIN The Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. — While other states pursue high-tech voting machines in hopes of avoiding a repeat of the Florida fiasco of 2000, Oregon proudly continues with its uniquely low-tech system of voting by mail.

Oregon abolished polling-place elections in 1998. The result is that Election Day 2004 in Oregon will actually be a 19-day affair that begins Friday with 2 million ballots being sent to the homes of registered voters.

egistered voters.

They can then cast their ballots

in the comfort of their own home and on their own timetable before mailing them back to local election offices before Nov. 2. Voters can also hand-deliver their ballots to designated drop sites on Election Day.

Voters seem highly satisfied with the switch, but other states are leery of following the lead of Oregon, a battleground state won by Democrat Al Gore in 2000.

"Oregon has been proselytizing this system aggressively, but there is unease about it" in other states, said Norm Ornstein, a political analyst at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C.

potential for coercion that arises when family members fill out ballots together at home. "Voting at a polling place provides a zone of privacy," he said. "Oregon's culture may not encourage corrupt activities, but

worry about fraud, as well as the

that doesn't stop husbands looking over the shoulders of their wives while they are voting." State officials say elections have been squeaky clean, and

they tout the convenience of the system.

"People can actually study

their voting materials, and they can mark their ballots at the kitchen table," Oregon Secretary of State Bill Bradbury said. "It's a wonderful recognition of people's busy lives"

Plus, vote-by-mail has been successful in boosting voter turnoutand reducing election costs, Bradbury said.

Nancy Dunn, a health care consultant and registered voter, is an enthusiastic supporter of vote-by-mail.

"I love it," the Salem resident said. "I can sit on my couch, in the quiet of my own home, and not feel pressured to vote quickly. You can take your time and vote at your own convenience."

Critics of Oregon's system say it is open to abuse because it allows political campaigns to keep track of which voters cast ballots during the 19-day voting period. It is perfectly legal for political parties to contact people who have not voted yet and to offer to deliver their ballots for them to local electrion offices.

For example, America Coming Together, a group backing Democrat John Kerry, plans to send out teams of volunteers to collect ballots from voters the group has identified or registered.

Lynne Cheney complains Kerry pulled 'cheap shot'

BY JOE MANDAK The Associated Press

CORAOPOLIS, Pa. — Lynne Cheney accused Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry of pulling a "cheap and tawdry political trick," apparently for invoking her daughter's sexuality in his debate with President Bush.

Asked Wednesday night whether homosexuality is a choice, Kerry noted that one of Vice President Dick Cheney's daughters is a lesbian, and said she would probably affirm that

daughters is a lesbian, and said she would probably affirm that she was born that way. "We're all God's children," Kerry said during the debate in

Lynne Cheney made clear she

Tempe, Ariz

thought Kerry had crossed a line into family privacy when she introduced her husband to a supportive crowd of 800 after a debate-watching party in the Pittsburgh suburb of Coraonolis.

"Now, you know, I did have a chance to assess John Kerry once more and now the only thing I could conclude: This is not a good man," she said.

not a good man," she said.

"Of course, I am speaking as a
mom. and a pretty indignant

mom.

This is not a good man. What a cheap and tawdry political

trick."

She was not more specific.

The vice president did not raise the matter in his remarks. Bush said in the debate he did not know whether homosexuality was a choice or fate.

TV networks putting faith in new system to project winner

BY DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK — Determined to avoid a repeat of high-profile failures in 2000 and 2002, television networks will rely on new systems on Nov. 2 to help project election winners and analyze why voters made their choices

The six news organizations that have formed the National Election Pool — ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, Fox News Channel and the AP — say they're confident things will go better this time, based on test

runs and the experience of people involved.

Still, the TV networks said they would be careful projecting winners after prematurely declaring a winner in the 2000 election.

winner in the 2000 election.

"We're just going to really, really be cautious," said Marty Ryan, Fox News Channel's executive pro-

Sald Warty Ryan, To Alexand Charles Carbon Marty Ryan, To Alexand Coverage.

"When we think we have it, we'll wait a few minutes and look again." Then we'll wait a few minutes and look again."

The networks blamed Voter News Service, the company they had formed to count votes and conduct exit polls, for faulty data that led to the wrong calls in 2000. VNS tried to rebuild its system, but it broke down on election injith 2002 and failed to provide usable exit polling information. VNS was then dishanded.

This time, the news organizations contracted with two veteran polling companies — Mitofsky International and Edison Media Research — to conduct exit polls. AP will be the sole source for vote counts.

Mason said technical adjustments were made to increase reliability: NEP will conduct exit polling in more voter precincts and have access to a greater number of past vote counts to use on a comparison basis.

Precautions are being taken to guard against human error as well. Using past elections as a guide, the AP's computer system is designed to spit out a warning if figures are entered that are significantly at odds with expected patterns.

Edwards tests funny side on Leno show

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD
The Associated Press

BURBANK, Calif. — John Edwards has a theory about what was hidden underneath an unusual wrinkle that appeared on the back of President Bush's suit jacket during his first debate with John Kerry.

"I think it was his battery," a grinning Edwards told Jay Leno on "The Tonight Show" on Tuesday.

"I think tomorrow, before the debate, John Kerry ought to pat him down," Edwards said, referring to the final Bush-Kerry matchup, scheduled for Wednesday in Arizona.

The Democratic vice presidential nominee, making his second appearance on the comedian's stage this year, was in turns silly and serious while chatting about issues from Iraq to chubby Secret Service agents.



Democratic vice presidential candidate Sen. John Edwards talks with "Tonight Show" host Jay Leno during his appearance on the show Tuesday at NBC studios in Burbank. Calif.

Leno asked Edwards if he could beat the president in a foot race.

Edwards, who said he jogged about five miles Tuesday, reminded the audience he played football as a student. Bush, he noted, was on a cheering squad.

Bush "was on the side, with his pompoms," the North Carolina senator said. "I don't know, can

you run fast with those cheerleading outfits on?"

Earlier, at a campaign stop in Colorado, Edwards attacked President Bush and Cheney as "out of touch." He didn't let up on Leno's

When Leno showed a clip of Kerry windsurfing, Edwards said, "If I had to spend 90 minutes on a stage with George Bush, I'd want to clear my head too."

First lady sees future of working with youth

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Looking beyond Election Day, first lady Laura Bush said Tuesday that if her husband is elected to a second term she would like to help juvenile delinquents with substance abuse problems

Mrs. Bush, in an hourlong interview on CNN's "Larry King Live"

King Live," said she has been reading about drug and alcohol problems among teenag-

ers who run into problems

Bush

with the law.

"And I just would be interested
to see if there is something we
could do for those young people
who get in trouble. Some sort of
recovery method... that would let
them have a more normal life
after that," said the former teacher and librarian who has made
reading one of her signature issues since George W. Bush took

office in January 2001.

But she did not rule out returning to the head of the class if there isn't a second Bush term.

"Yes, I'd love to teach," she said. "I'll definitely work with

schools forever."

Mrs. Bush said she's also looking forward to grandchildren—
though she isn't expecting any yet
from her 22-year-old twin daugh-

ters, Barbara and Jenna, both recent college graduates. "Don't worry. They're not about to get married. Neither one of them have somebody they're going to marry, but I wish," she

said.

If her future doesn't hold another four years in the White House,
Mrs. Bush likely won't miss what
she said she detests most about

Mrs. Bush likely won't miss what she said she detests most about being first lady: the lack of privacy.

Despite relinquishing her ano-

cy.
Despite relinquishing her anonymity, Mrs. Bush said she has
been able to slip unnoticed into
New York City to go shopping,
even with a security entourage
trailing her.

"They are, but if they're pretty discreet, then New Yorkers are not looking at everyone on the street. They're looking straight ahead." she said.

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KBR story inaccurate

Contrary to The Associated Press story "Iraqi oil experts decry KBR work" (Aug. 22), KBR has made much progress to help restore oil and gas production and exports in Iraq since its contract work began in

March 2003. The AP story was based largely on the inaccurate assertions of a former director general in the Iraqi Oil Ministry.

We would like to point out that this former Oil Ministry official did not normally attend meetings held among KBR, Iraq's Ministry of Oil and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and he therefore is not in a position to know firsthand about "priorities," "schedules" and "promises" discussed in those meetings.

The ability of KBR to initiate and complete pre-identified projects has always been contingent on the Army making decisions on the use of U.S.-appropriated funds and the accurate assessment of needed repairs.

The Army Corps of Engineers and the Project and Contracting Office-Oil Program meet regularly with the Ministry of Oil to reassess which projects to begin based on current funding levels and the changing and often-urgent needs in the field. All work performed by KBR is, and always has been, at the direction of its client — formerly the Corps of Engineers and now the PCO Oil Program.

We have been in contact with the AP to point out the former Oil Ministry official's extremely limited perspective, but we also wanted to be in direct contact with Stars and Stripes since we place special importance on the reputation we hold among its readers.

Had information been sought from the Army and the PCO Oil Program, Stripes readers would have learned that KBR's work in Iraq has directly and positively enhanced the country's ability to export fuel as well as import fuel products to transfer them throughout the country.

The truth is, KBR delivers Al Neffgen

Chief operating officer Government Operations-Americas, KBR

Sex a desire, not a need

In response to "Sex law too much" (Oct. 4), the letter writer called sex a biological need. Sex is not a need, it is a desire. You will not die if you don't have sex

Visiting a prostitute is nothing more than satisfying a desire. If the prostitution law is the "freedom destroying" that the letter writer was referring to, then why not let servicemembers commit adultery and have sex with children or any other thinkable desire? The writer also said this "irrational

prudishness" is "uniquely American," which is untrue. There are many countries that have stricter views on sexuality; and America today is anything but prudish. The writer blames conservative views

on sex as the cause of a high rate of social-ly transmitted diseases. "Stifling, legally complicated freedom-destroying bounds

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must he signed and must include the writer's address or hase and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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of a proper relationship," as the writer described them, don't spread diseases. It is the desire to satisfy sexual desire without any moral or ethical standard that spreads disease.

The letter writer said the law would drive "good servicemembers" out of the military. If not visiting a prostitute is a major issue, then maybe there is a deeper issue that needs to be addressed, and the military has programs to help.

Spc. Christopher Curlee Camp Anaconda, Iraa

Don't force morality

I keep reading that the proposed legislation on prostitution is based on "morality. Morality is founded on Christian values. Who are we to decide that everyone should be forced to comply with a value system they don't believe in?

Our country was founded on diversity and the right to choose what ideals we adhere to as long as we don't infringe on someone else's rights

The writer of the Oct. 7 letter "No excuse for prostitution" quotes an airman who says: "[I]f it's illegal in the United States, then it should be illegal for the U.S. military." I agree with this statement. Unfortunately the writer needs to check his facts. There is legalized prostitution in the United States. Nevada is one state that decided it would be best to legalize and regulate prostitution [in some jurisdictions] rather than make it illegal and therefore have no control.

If the military is allowed to continue to legislate servicemembers' lives based on abstract values what will be next to be addressed? Pornography? Sex outside of marriage? Both of these are immoral, but that doesn't mean that they should be illegal.

The military already has more statutes based on morality than the United States. Adultery is legal in the United States but it is illegal in the military. How would the U.S. public react if Congress tried to pass a law making adultery illegal? I am all for enacting laws necessary to

protect people and to keep society running

smoothly. I am equally against creating laws forcing people to comply with values they don't believe in for no other reason than someone in power feels what those people believe is immoral. If this legislation does become law, it should be based on something stronger and more concrete than morality Spc. Jason Burrows

Victory Base, Iraq

Testing 'moral fitness' tough A basic tenet of command is: "Do not

issue an order that is impossible to enforce

Prohibiting the use of prostitutes by military members is one of them. It is a moral decision to use the services of such a nerson. We have urinalysis for drug use, Breathalyzer for alcohol use, HIV testing for HIV exposure, and any number of other tests to check our medical fitness.

Is there a test for moral fitness? What would the point of such a regulation be? We already have Article 134, which covers we aready have Article 154, which covers actions that are "prejudicial to good order and discipline." Can we not leave this up to the local commander to regulate through the use of "off limits" areas? We as leaders have more to worry about

in getting our soldiers ready to go into harm's way than if Pfc. Snuffy (gender not specific since there are male and female prostitutes) goes out and spends \$50 to relieve some sexual stress before getting on a train/plane/boat to go into a danger area.

If you, as a unit commander, want to make bordellos and cathouses off limits to your soldiers, then that is your decision, based (hopefully) on an operational need, and not on a personal or moral agenda. Sgt. Maj. James R. Winslow

Kaiserslautern, Germany

Don't use draft ever again

I am aware that freedom requires sacrifice, but to force someone to join the military against his or her will to go to combat is not the smartest idea ("Draft more fair than stop loss," letter, Oct. 11).

We tried [a draft] through Vietnam and it was a failure and should not be implemented ever again. I understand where the letter writer is coming from, but you cannot force someone to join the military first] because we are stretched out

I am a U.S. Marine and I still am, and I have been through a stop loss. I was upset, but I got through it and kept rolling. If we instituted a draft it would send the country into an uproar and there would be mothers, wives, fathers and husbands protesting that their son or daughter or spouse is forced to do military service. It is up to the individual. I would rather

have someone who has his or her heart in it rather than someone who does not because that would get me killed. I would have a grieving mother to whom I could not say "I love you" one last time. To answer the letter writer's question,

yes, the defense of our nation is very important, and so is freedom of choice.

Marine Cpl. Ian K. Isaac

Camp Udairi, Kuwait By GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury







OPINION

By design, U.N. fiddles while Darfur burns

BY NEWT GINGRICH

or more than six months, U.N. observers, delegations from the House and Senate and aid workers from organizations such as Amnesty International and Doctors Without Borders have witnessed



and spoken out against what the U.S. State Department has correctly called the genocide that is being committed in Darfur by the Janjaweed militias. Despite its repeated denials, it is clear that the government of Sudan is funding these attacks.

Gingrich

Yet in the face of all the evidence, incredibly, Sudan continues to hold a seat on the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. How can that be? How, if that is the case, can the commission have any moral standing whatsoeve? How can it effect change or protect human rights? It seems plain and obvious that Sudan must be stripped of its seat and that sudan must be stripped of its seat and human rights records of other countries. Yet under U.N. rules, that's exactly how the Commission on Human Rights operation.

Consider the facts. Since February 2003, more than 50,000 people are believed to have been killed in the Darfur region, and 1.4 million more have been driven from their homes. Amnesty International has called these assaults "war crimes against humanity," and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Amaan has called the situation in Darfur the world's worst current humanitarian crisis.

Clearly, the government responsible for such beinous acts is not the ideal entity to have setting standards by which other countries human rights records are judged. Yet U.N. policy is that the human rights records of the S3 countries that sit on the commission may not be assessed as a prerequisite to serving on the panel. That means there is no serving on the panel. That means there is no being manipulated by governments that routinely abuse human rights.

As a result, over the years the commission has been corrupted by political games that have allowed some of the world's worst human rights abusers to sit in judgment of others—and to shield themselves from criticam. Known human rights abusers, including Algeria, Cuba, Syria, Iran, Palsistan and Zimbabwe, have served on the commission. Last year Libya was elected to chair the panel by a bloc of African and Middle Eastern nations. The consequences are unmission able While the victims of abuse and torture has been considered to the consequence of the commission systematically ignores their pilipit and blocks offores for intervention.

If the commission is to have any meaning, the United Nations should decree that countries charged with genocide and countries charged with genocide and countries with totalitarian governments are not eligible to serve. And the Security Council must be remove Sudan from the commission and the African nations that nominated it to appoint a respectable member all the second services and the countries of the second services are serviced to the services of the se

The United Nations cannot continue on its current course with regard to the crisis in Sudan. Despite the abundance of evidence and outrage, the most aggressive action the Security Council has taken to date has been a resolution giving Sudan 30 days to disarm the Janjaweed. Those 30 days expired Aug.



30. A feckless Sept. 18 resolution threatening, but not actually applying, sanctions against Sudan's oil industry has only served to buy more time for the regime, as has Annan's call for an "impartial commission" to investigate.

Speaking last month when the U.S. Senate passed a resolution calling for Studie's re-moval from the commission, Senate Majority Leader Bill Pirit, R. Tenn., had it right when he said that "the 1948 Genocide Convention calls on states-parties to 'prevent and punish' genocide when it occurs. If we are going to preserve the credibility of the United Nations and its separate commissions, advance the cause of human rights

and protect oppressed people around the globe, then the U.N. must take more aggressive action."

This is a test of the integrity and decency

of the United Nations as an institution. Continued inaction against Sudan will only encourage more deaths, not only in Sudan but at the hands of future tyrants who understand all too well the unwillingness and inability of the United Nations to put aside internal politics to stop them.

Newt Gingrich, a Georgia Republican who was speaker of the House from 1995 to 1999, is a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, a Washington think tank. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Conservative political theory not followed on Iraq

BY PAUL CAMPOS

magine if a handful of extra chade had ended up dangling in Al Gore's favor four years ago, and he had gone on to invade and occupy Iraq, for the same reasons the Bush administration has given for undertaking those actions. The instinctive response to this hypothetical is to claim that because Gore is a liberal, he would never have engaged in something like the Iraq war.

The irony is that the administration's Iraq policy exemplifies what classic conservative political theorists have identified as the fundamental weaknesses of the liberal worldview. Specifically:

- Conservative political theory recognizes that human reason is a far less powerful tool than shallowly optimistic liberal rationalists would have us believe. Grandiose claims about the ability of experts to predict and control the future are characteristic of liberal intellectual arrogance.
- Conservative political theory has always emphasized that human cultures are by nature immensely complex things, and that each culture has its own organic logic and structure, which will be difficult for outsiders to understand. In particular, conservative thinkers deride the liberal delastion that imposing one culture's laws cally transform the latter into something that resembles the former.
- Conservative thinkers have made particularly devastating criticisms of liberal thought by pointing out the extent to which liberalism has failed to grasp that religious belief and nationalist sentiment remain overwhelmingly powerful forces in human affairs.

Now consider how these insights apply to the Iraq war.

The architects of that war have a grand strategic vision. By replacing, Saddam Hussein's brutal regime with a government friendly to Western values, the Middle East will be transformed eventually from a region governed by dysfunctional dictatorships and religious fanaticism into an area where democracy, free markets and the rule of law are welcomed rather than desoised.

This is, to put it mildly, an ambitious scheme. Consider that the Western world's most knowledgeable Iraq experts were completely wrong about whether Saddam possessed weapons of mass destruction.

Yet the Bush administration claims it

makes sense to continue to occupy Iraq on the basis of its views regarding an almost infinitely more complicated question: whether Iraq can be transformed into a democracy, and what effect such a transformation would have on the rest of the Middle East.

Now consider the means by which this transformation is supposed to take place: by holding the first real elections in the nation is history, less than two years after the overthrow of Saddam's regime, and while something resembling a civil war continues to be fought in Iraq itself.

Imagine if another nation's military overthrew the United States government, and its leaders announced that, within a year or two, America was going to be transformed into an Islamic republic. It doesn't require one of the great minds of conservative political thought to recognize the absurdity of such a plan. Yet how different is this from what the Bush ad-

ministration proposes to do in Iraq? The Iraq insurgency illustrates the extent to which diverse groups will put aside their desire to kill each other to fight against outsiders who trigger feelings of religious fervor and national pride.

In particular, the suicide bomber — a figure that must remain incomprehensible to those who cling to the shallow rationalism characteristic of so much liberal thought — is someone who classic conservative thinkers would have understood perfectly well.

That the Iraq war is a reckless adventure in utopian internationalism, made possible by the naiveté to which liberal thought has always been prone, would be obvious if it were not being prosecuted by an administration that, in the face of all evidence, calls itself conservative.

Paul Campos is a law professor at the University of Colorado in Boulder. He writes this column for Scripps Howard News Service.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



U.S. deficit at second highest level in history

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The U.S. trade deficit, propelled by a record foreign oil bill, surged to \$54 billion in August, the second highest level in history. The politically sensitive deficit with China hit a new high as American retailers upped their orders for cell

phones, toys and televisions.
The Commerce Department said the August trade deficit in goods and services was 6.9 per-cent higher than a \$50.5 billion imbalance in July. A small 0.1 percent rise in exports was dwarfed by a 2.5 percent jump in imports.

For the year. America's trade deficit is running at a record annual rate of \$590 billion, 19 percent higher than the previous record, last year's \$496.5 billion imbal-

Imports climbed 2.5 percent to a record \$150.1 billion in August. reflecting a 12.2 percent jump in petroleum shipments, which rose to a record \$15.6 billion last

U.S. exports edged up 0.1 percent to \$96 billion in August following an even larger 3 percent gain in July. Economists are hoping that an improving global economy will lift sales of American goods overseas. Sales of American cars and auto parts did hit a record, rising to \$7.8 billion in Au-

The U.S. trade performance has become an issue in the presidential race with Democratic challenger John Kerry charging that President Bush has not done enough to protect American workers from unfair trade practices from low wage countries such as

In Wednesday night's final debate, Kerry criticized Bush for failing to pursue an unfair trade practice complaint against China on the grounds that it has rigged its currency system to keep the yuan undervalued by as much as 40 percent against the U.S. dollar, giving Chinese products a huge competitive advantage against American goods.

In a second economic report, the Labor Department said the number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits rose by 15,000 last week to a seasonally adjusted level of

The four-week moving average of claims, which smooths out weekly changes, rose by 4,000 to a seven-month high of 352,000.

The report on jobless claims reflects a labor market that is continuing to confound economists expectations. The country added a lower-than-expected 96,000 jobs in September as the unemployment rate held steady at 5.4

In August, the trade deficit with China climbed to a record \$18.1 billion, pushed higher by a surge in demand for cell phones. toys and games, televisions and VCRs, reflecting efforts by U.S. retailers to stock their shelves in advance of the holiday shopping

St. Helens emits lava. forming new dome

By PEGGY ANDERSEN The Associated Press

SEATTLE - The ongoing dome-building eruption at Mount St. Helens has produced glowing red lava that can be seen in nighttime aerial views of the peak, scientists say.

Low-hanging clouds and steam from the 8.364-foot volcano also reflect the glow of red-hot molten rock surfacing at nearly 1,300 degrees Fahrenheit, making it visible from the valley below the crater's open north side.

The emerging "fin" of rock "appears to have grown somewhat" from an earlier estimate of 60 to 90 feet tall and 150 to 180 feet wide, but as of late Wednesday scientists had not developed new measurements, geologist Tina Neal of the U.S. Geological Survey said at the Cascades Volcano Observatory in Vancouver, Wash.

Scientists pegged the growth rate at about 2 to 3 cubic meters a second, enough to fill an Olympic-size swimming pool in about



Mount St. Helens gives off steam down the west side as the volcano as its lava dome-building activity continues in southwest Washington on Wednesday morning.

15 minutes, and geologist Willie Scott has dubbed the new formation "the 21st century dome," said Jeff Wynn, chief scientist for vol-

The growth indicates lava is continuing to emerge within the crater. Neal said. The growing mass is just behind an existing dome that began forming in the months after St. Helens blew its top on May 18, 1980.

The fin, about 750 degrees, has a pinkish cast "like medium roast beef," and the eerie glow from within the crater "is entirely consistent with these kinds of temper-atures," Neal said.

New instruments were placed

on the emerging mass by helicopter Tuesday. The equipment may not last long because of falling rock and other hazards, but the information they provide while they last will be helpful, Neal

She and other scientists say they don't know how long the eruption might continue or whether it will be marked by explosive blasts of ash Mount St. Helens has been the

most active volcano in the lower 48 states and Canada over the past 4,500 years. Seismic levels remained low at

the mountain, indicating a steady flow of magma inside the volcano, Neal said

Implantable chip holds medical data

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Privacy advocates are concerned that an implantable microchip designed to help doctors tap into a patient's medical records could under-mine confidentiality or could even be used to track the patient's movements.

"If privacy protections aren't built in at the outset, there could he harmful consequences for natients," said Emily Stewart, a policy analyst at the Health Privacy Project.

The Food and Drug Administration said Wednesday that Applied Digital Solutions Beach, Fla., could market the VeriChip, an implantable computer chin about the size of a grain of rice, for storing medical informa-

With the pinch of a syringe, the microchin is inserted under the skin in a procedure that takes less than 20 minutes and requires no stitches. Silently and invisibly, the dormant chip stores a code that releases patient-specific information when a scanner passes

The VeriChip itself contains no medical records, just codes that can be scanned and revealed in a doctor's office or hospital. With that code, doctors can unlock part of a secure database that holds the patient's medical information, including allergies and prior treatment. The electronic database not the chip, would be updated with each medical visit

The microchins have already been implanted in 1 million pets. But the chip's possible use to track people's movements - in

addition to speeding delivery of medical information to emergencv rooms - has raised alarm. The company's chief executive officer, Scott R. Silverman, said

chips implanted for medical uses could also be used for security nurnoses, like tracking employee movement through nuclear power plants. Stewart said that to protect pa-

tient privacy, the devices should reveal only vital medical informa-tion, like blood type and allergic reactions, needed for health care workers to do their jobs.

To kickstart the chip's use among humans, Applied Digital will provide \$650 scanners for free at 200 of the nation's trauma centers

In pets, installing the chip costs wners about \$50. For humans, the chip implantation cost would be \$150 to \$200, said Angela Fulcher, an Applied Digital spokeswoman.

Producer accuses O'Reilly of sexual harassment

Mackris

she returned

after a short

stint at CNN

to in July

NEW YORK - Bill O'Reilly, whose Fox News Channel show is the highest-rated cable news program, has been accused of sexual harassment by one of his producers. O'Reilly says the complaint is a politically motivated extortion attemnt. Both sides filed lawsuits

Wednesday, with the woman, An-drea Mackris, saying the commentator had phone sex with her against her wishes three times.

In his claim against Mackris and her attorney, Benedict Morelli, O'Reilly said Morelli demanded \$60 million in "hush money" to not file the lawsuit.

"As a public figure, I have re-ceived many threats," he said. "But enough is enough ... The



O'Reilly

During a phone conversation this August, Mackris, 33, said O'Reilly suggested she buy a vi-

brator and was clearly excited. Before hanging up, she said, O'Reilly told her: "I appreciate the fun phone call."

She contended he made a simi-

lar call Sept. 21, ending that one by saying: "Next time you'll come up to my hotel room and we'll make this happen.' O'Reilly's lawyer,

Green, said he believes there are tanes of conversations between the two and asked a court to compel Mackris to produce them so they could be played publicly. Morelli would not comment on

whether any taped phone conversations exist

Besides the attempt for money, O'Reilly charged that his accuser and her lawyer were trying to em-barrass him and Fox News Channel three weeks before the election. Morelli, he said, is a contributor to the Democratic Party; "The O'Reilly Factor" is a particular fa-vorite among Republican viewers.

'Three-strikes' revisited LOS ANGELES - California

voters are taking a second whack at "three-strikes" guidelines a decade after they first passed the nation's toughest sentencing law.

In essence. Proposition 66 turns on the question of how justice should be administered: Is the goal retribution, or another chance? "If this thing passes, you're looking at a wholesale bloodbath," said Mike Reynolds, who galvanized California's three-strikes movement follow-

ing his daughter's 1992 murder. The ballot measure is among the most hard-fought of the 16 propositions that Californians will decide this year.

Polling suggests voters may

opt to change current law. A poll released Wednesday shows nearly two-thirds of likely voters support the proposition

Suspect used visa

TRENTON, N.J. - A senior al-Qaida operative accused of conducting surveillance on U.S. financial buildings as possible terror targets had entered the United States on a student visa, according to a newspaper report.

FBI agent Joseph Billy Jr. told The Record of Bergen County for a story in Thursday editions that the operative lived in New Jersey and attended several schools there while carrying out the reconnaissance opera-

From The Associated Press

Elderly get priority for scarce flu shots

Drug store diverts supply to nursing home

BY MICHELLE SPITZER
The Associated Press

JOHNSTON, Iowa — Health officials are scurrying to secure flu vaccines so the elderly, who are most vulnerable to influenza, have first access to shots after the

nation's supply was cut in half.
"We're begging, borrowing and
stealing from every source we
can come up with," said Paula
Frank, a clinical consulting nurse
for the Bishop Drumm Retirement Center.

The 150 nursing home residents at the continuing care complex owned by Mercy Medical Center are getting flu shots this week after the Walgreens drug store chain diverted a batch of

vaccine bound for its stores. Walgreens decided to divert its supply in response to a request from the U.S. Centrers for Disease Control and Prevention, which asked healthy adults to forgo flushots this year to ensure that those most at risk would get them.

"We've tried to follow the CDC

list is people over the age of 65," said Michael Polzon, spokesman for Walgreens. "These retirement homes were also a good match for the amount we had."

The elderly are among those most at risk, said Dr. Patricia Quinlisk, state epidemiologist.

"As you get older, your im-

"As you get older, your immune system gets older, too, and you are not able to withstand any kind of disease as you are when you are younger," she said.

Over a five-year period ended in 2003, Iowa tallied 4,526 deaths from flu and pneumonia; of those, 4,235 were 65 and older.

It's a critical concern in a state that ranks fourth in the nation in the percentage of its population 65 and older. According to the 2000 Census, 14.9 percent of Iowans are in that age group.

wans are in that age group.

Anne Langill, 88, a nursing home resident at Bishop Drumm, said she was never concerned she wouldn't get a flu shot.

"I thought that the people who really needed it would get it first," Langill said. "If anyone here got it, then there would have to be special efforts to get it (the



Anne Langill, 88, one of 150 residents in the Bishop Drumm Retirement Center in Johnston, Iowa, are getting flu shots this week after the Walgreens drug store chain diverted a batch of vaccine.

Scientists testing gel to protect against HIV

BY LAURAN NEERGAARD

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Scientists have long sought a vaginal gel that women could apply before sex to block the AIDS virus. Now they've found a new lead — a chemical specially designed to thwart the way HIV penetrates

women's cells.

The experimental drug isn't ready for human testing yet, but it provided potent protection to female monkeys exposed to large amounts of an AIDS virus, researchers report Thursday in the

journal Science.

The chemical prevented HIV from invading vaginal tissue by blocking its preferred cellular doorway, the first evidence that targeting that portal is sufficient to prevent infection.

"There's such a need for prevention right now," said lead researcher Dr. Michael Lederman of Case Western Reserve Univer-

"There's been a lot of difficulty in getting microbicides to be both effective and non-irritating," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. "This is a

step forward."

HIV infection is increasing more rapidly among women than men in many parts of the world. Half of all of the adults living with HIV and AIDS worldwide are female, compared with 41 percent in 1997, according to the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS. In sub-Saharan Africa, for example, the figure is near-typ 60 percent, the group says.

Now, two experimental microbicides are undergoing final-stage testing in thousands of women in Africa. While advocates hope they'll provide at least partial protection, they don't specifically target the way HIV invades during heterosexual intercourse.

The research was funded by the U.S. and Swiss governments.

Survey shows some try to profit from shortage

BY DANIEL YEE
The Associated Press

Caught off-guard by a last-minute flu vaccine shortage, hospitals and health officials are grappling with a side effect perhaps more virulent than the bug itself: price gouging.

Around the country, officials say some vaccine suppliers are trying to cash in on the flushot shortage by hiking up prices for hospitals and pharmacies. A recent survey found that the vaccine is sometimes being offered for 10 times its original value.

"Shame on the people who are price-gouging," said Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "There's no room for this kind of behavior in an environment where we need to pull together as a country to protect our vulnerable populations"

Federal prosecutors could use a variety of fraud, conspiracy and other charges to pursue individuals or companies thought to be engaging in price-gouging. Some states are taking their own action

Attorneys general in Kansas and Florida are suing Fort Lauderdale, Fla.-based Meds-Stat for allegedly trying to seek "unconscionable profits" by offering pharmacies flu shots for prices way above normal.

The nationwide scramble for the vaccine was triggered when Chiron Corp. — one of two firms that make the vaccine — announced it would be unable to provide the estimated 48 million shots expected this year. That's nearly half the supply federal health officials had counted on.

The remaining firm, Aventis Pasteur, can't make more vaccine in time for the flu season and it has only 55.4 million doses available for this season, simply not enough to go around. The government is negotiating with other vaccine makers in hones of shaking loose a bit

When a flu shot leaves the factory, Aventis charges 88.50 for it, and the company says it has not raised the price since Chiron's announcement. A recent survey by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists indicated that the price of the vaccine went up more than four times the original market vaccine is being offered at S800 or more per 10-dose vial, which is more than 10 times the original raise.



Web-based system could aid diabetics' care

BY DAVID TWIDDY The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Gabe Mathews felt funny at school last week, so the 9-year-old went to the nurse, who discovered the diabetic boy's blood sugar was very low. Later that night, his mother test-

ed him again — only to find it was much too high. Such swings are common for children with Type I diabetes, the rarer form of the disease, which affects 206,000 people under the age of 20.

Notifying a child's doctor of such rapid changes can help determine a cause and quickly change an insulin regimen. The problem: Doing so quickly, said Gabe's mother, Michele Kilo, a physician at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City.

Cerner Corp., one of the country's largest provideers of electronic health care records, on Wednesday announced a \$25 million plan to provide a Web-based system connecting all children with Type I diabetes with their physicians for free.

The 10-year effort will establish personal health care records for each child, which can be accessed by the patient's family and health care provider through a secure Web site. It will record glucose levels, carbohydrates and insulin injections, reducing clinical visits and possibly heading off medical prob-

"We're really trying to prove the value of connecting a person with a chronic medical condition with their physician," said Neal Patterson, chief executive of Kansas City-based Cerner. "We think that's one of the most valuable things information technolo-

two of Kansas City-based Cerner. "We think that's one of the most valuable things information technology can do." Besides helping diabetics, however, the campaign

is also an early experiment in the burgeoning area of electronic health records. The Bush administration has set a goal that most

Americans will have computerized health records available within a decade.

Supporters contend electronic records avoid medical mistakes, improve care and are cheaper to store than paper records. Critics often cite privacy and costs as concerns.

Patterson said that by the time the diabetes program is over, he expects the market for such online, on-demand records to be in full swing — and for Cerner to have staked its place in that market.

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Man rescued

WOODFORD, Vt. — A Shaftsbury man who spent 24 hours lost in the woods was rescued safely.

Wolfgang Ludwig, 64, was the subject of a search by police, friends, relatives and game wardens.

His wife, Priscila, said that he probably would have found his way out.

Ludwig went to the Aiken Wilderness in Woodford to scout moose for the upcoming hunting season, she said.

He realized that the sun was setting sooner then he expected, and knowing that he wouldn't make it to his car before dark, he settled down and started a fire with a lighter he had taken with him. she said.

Hours after he first entered the woods, the search party found Ludwig in perfect health and well rested from his night by a fire.

Faucet a beacon of hope

MARIANNA — James Abney lost everything when a tornado spawned by Hurricane Ivan demolished everything he had — except remnants of the kitchen sink.

The only thing left where his trailer home had been standing was his kitchen faucet, supported by narrow water pipes. In fact, the faucet became a beacon of hope, towering at sink-level in a devastated trailer park.

After seeing an Associated Press photograph of the spigot sticking into the air, Delta Faucet workers recognized the fixture as one of theirs and tracked Abney down.

The Indianapolis-based company gave Abney \$10,000 toward a down payment on his new home in Abbeville. Ala.

City wants parts back

KS WICHITA — A man who landed parts of a sculpture mistakenly put up for auction is still at odds with the city, which wants them back.

The base plate and a 17-inch section of the stainless steel sculpture by James Rosati were sold to Matthew Cuellar at the auction of surplus items.

Joe Lang, assistant city attorney, said officials were still considering what to do.

The sculpture, "Upright Form V," was donated to the city in the early 1990s. It formerly was located near the Willowbend Golf Club, but had been in storage. While it hasn't been appraised, estimates have placed the sculpture's value at between \$7,000 and \$30,000.

Cuellar, who paid \$45 for the two pieces, has said he will sell them back to the city for one-third of the sculpture's true value.

Firefighter misconduct

CA SACRAMENTO — Nineteen city firefighters were disciplined for misconduct that included using fire trucks to pick up women at bars and drinking on the job, the Sacramento fire chief said.

The department fired six firefighters, suspended seven without pay and reprimanded six others after a 3½-month investigation,



said Chief Julius "Joe" Cherry. One woman was among those disciplined.

Investigators found that several other firefighters took two truck and an ambulance to a local event known as the "Porn Star Costume Ball" at a hotel where a woman claimed she was sexually assault-ed. Prosecutors concluded the act on one of the fire rigs was consensual and declined to press charges, Cherry said.

Riot report released

DENVER — Inmates were severely beaten, cells were ransacked and set on fire, and a female librarian was trapped with dozens of convicts during a riot last summer at a privately run prison, according to a recently released state report.

The report by the state Department of Corrections concludes that managers at the Crowley County Correctional Facility were slow to respond to the July 20 riot because of indecision and understaffing.

According to the report, immates nearly overran the prison, which is owned and operated by the Corrections Corporation of America. They smashed sinks and toilets, set fires, destroyed appliances and rifled through files to find the names of suspected informants and sex offenders, the report said.



Colorful foliage

Silos and a barn at Rider Farms on state Route 23 in Davenport Center, N.Y., are surrounded by fall colors, The report says prison managers incorrectly told arriving law enforcement officials that all employees had been evacuated. The librarian was trapped in the library, and two prison officers had locked themselves in a cell, the report said

All three were rescued safely, the report said. Their names were not released.

Blues Brothers chase

MN CRYSTAL — Police responding to a call of a convulsing Elvis Presley impersonator soon found themselves in a high-speed chase of another faux celebrity — a man dressed as one of the Blues Brothers.

Crystal Police Capt. Dave Oyaas said the bizarre string of events began when officers were called to a veterans hall to find a man dressed as Elvis Presley apparently in convulsions.

When the officers approached, Oyaas said the man suddenly jumped up and yelled, "Viva Las Vegas!" before singing show tunes.

At about the same time, two women said another man at the veterans hall dressed as John Belushi's character in "The Blues Brothers" had stolen their car and driven to a nearby airport.

The man led police on a high-speed chase around the airport before officers forced him to ston and arrested him.

Court: Tractor not a toy

RUTLAND — A John Deere lawn and garden tractor is made for work, not for fun.

At least that's how the Vermont Supreme Court sees it

The court ruled in a dispute between an insurance company and the driver of a lawn tractor who injured his son while using his son's lawn tractor to plow snow at his son's home in Rutland Town.

The insurance company's policy covered injuries sustained in a recreational vehicle accident, not a work-related vehicle.

The state's highest court sided with the insurance company's decision to deny coverage for the accident, ruling that the lawn tractor was a work vehicle.

Norton ruled in favor of Concord General, concluding that the tractor was designed for work, not recreation. Delong appealed to Vermont Supreme Court.

Abuse at camp alleged

MD SALISBURY — Law enforcement officials and the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services are investigating an allegation of child abuse at the Lower Shore DRILL Academy, a military-style boot camp.

Wicomico County Sheriff R. Hunter Nelms, whose office oversees the boot camp, said an officer is accused of physically assaulting a student. Nelms declined to provide details, saying they would be released when the investigation is completed.

The Discipline Respect Integrity Learning Leadership Academy opened in December. It is a rehabilitation center for youths who have had brushes with the law.



Festival fun Pushed by Cambrelle Brown, 11, Northwood Elementary student Meredith Stabel, 11, reacts as the wheelbarrow she is riding in knocks over one ridden by fellow student Ali Elbasher. 11, during a race at the school's Fall Festival in Northwood, lowa.



Mixing it up Dave Marten and his daughter, Julie, stit two of four large Burgo cauldrons amidst the crafts and people swarming around Utica, III., for the annual Burgoo Festival. The Burgoo stew is a mixture of beef and vegetables that is cooked for 15 hours and symbolizes the heritage of the area when farmers, traders, hunters and others would gather at the end of the harvest season to sell and trade goods.



Wigging out Marie Williams of Cleveland, Ala., reacts to her new hair extension at the Styles Extended booth at the Southern Women's Show at the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex.



Curious creature A calf moose kneels to browse dandelion leaves near an ornamental rock in a residential yard in Eagle River, Alaska.



Cowboys on the job
The Cronin brothers move cattle
from their summer range to fall
pastures along the Missouri River
near West Whitlock, S.D.



Thinking of the next move Cousins Makalah Roberts, left, and Victoria Smith play a game on a checker board using Coca-Cola bottle caps at the McDaniel

Shipping cows to Cuba

VI MONTPELIER — Vermont expects to send its first shipment of dairy cattle to Cuba early next year as part of a trade agreement.

Agriculture Secretary Steve

Kerr traveled to the island nation for a week in early September to help fine-tune an estimated \$7 million deal for Vermont companies to sell dairy cattle, nonfat powdered milk and apples to Cuba. Vermont's products are high

quality, Kerr said recently. "If we can be competitive, there's no reason not to compete successfully and have a share of the sales."

The heifers are expected to head to Cuba in the first quarter of 2005. Details of the powdered milk and apple deals are still being worked out, Kerr said.

Cold War tribute

MO WELDON SPRING — For more than a year, Denise Brock has been trying to win government compensation for workers who were exposed to high levels of radiation while helping to create the atom bomb and Cold War-era weapons.

Now Brock has her eye on another kind of recognition for their

Brock is working with the Department of Energy to build an exhibit that will tell the story of more than 3,500 Missourians who worked on the U.S. atom bomb program and at Cold War-era nuclear sites in St. Louis, Weldon Soring and Hematite. Mo.

The tribute should be completed by year's end and will become a permanent display at the Weldon Spring Interpretive Center.

Upholding morals

BOISE — During these tough budget times, schools don't often pass up a check for \$10,000. But that's just what one Idaho charter school has done — to set a moral example for students.

The North Star Public Charter School turned down the money because it came from the Idaho State Lottery and school officials decided that taking gambling money would conflict with the school's mission of developing virtuous citizens.

"We couldn't in good conscience take the money," said Gale Pooley, co-founder and chairman of the school board. "It's the less fortunate and the poor in the communities who are buying these tickets, and children are the ones who will pay for it."

Ducky dispute

TN SPRING HILL Katherine Williams says the yellow ducky sponge she put on sale at a flea market is merely a child's toy. City officials say the vibrator inside makes it a sex toy.

But officials in this Nashville suburb backed off from citing Williams for violating the city's sexually oriented business ordinance because she had already taken down her display by the time police responded to complaints. Nearby vendors also refused to be witnesses in the case.

Williams, whose Passions & Pleasures business sells lotions and adult novelties at in-home

parties, described her product line as "PG-13" and said she got only two negative comments at the flea market

Apple crop thin

GRAYSLAKE — A May frost followed by cool summer temperatures thinned this year's apple crop in the state's northern orchards. It's also cut short the self-picking season, which usually runs through the end of October. Meanwhile, orchards in southern Illinois are reporting a bumper crop.

Blind endeavors

SAN FRANCISCO — Scott Duncan and Pamela Habek have embarked on an attempt to sail alone around the world, a journey made even more treacherous by the fact that both are legally blind.

Duncan, 38, and Habek, 42, set out in a 32-foot cutter for what they hope is a two-year voyage that takes them down the coast to Panama, across the Pacific and Indian oceans, around the tip of South Africa, through the Panama Canal and back home.

With the help of modern technology that includes a talking Global Positioning System and a 10-power video magnifier the can use for reading charts, the couple is confident they have what they need to avoid sailing into harm's way even without perfect vision.

Snake on the tracks

YONKERS — Commuters waiting for a train to the northern suburbs of New York City were surprised to see a boa constrictor lying on the railroad tracks, but the snake didn't block the rails for long.

Passengers in Yonkers saw the 10-foot snake curled up on the tracks.
"We couldn't figure out if it was

alive or not," passenger Edith Lynn Beer told The New York Times. "It was very thick. It had those rectangular markings."

A few minutes later, while police debated what to do, a train rumbled into the station and "bifurcated the reptilian trespasser," said Dan Brucker, a spokesman for the Metro-North rail line.

Lawsuit over firings

LAKE STATION — Federal housing officials are suing the Lake County Board of Commissioners and other officials over the 2000 firings of two administrators. The two supported a mixed-income housing development opposed by Lake Station resement opposed by Lake Station resembly the station of the commission of the station of the commission of the station of the station of the station to build the development.

Searching for clues

RAWLINS — Experts have reconstructed the face of a 100-year-old Carbon County murder victim in an attempt to identify him. The man was killed by a single gunshot to the head around 1900. The man's damaged skull and skeleton were found in 1996 in a dune west of Seminoe Reservoir.

Stories and photos from wire services.

Is he for real?

'Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow' creator flies into the future of filmmaking

BY WILLIAM BOOTH The Washington Post

LOS ANGELES - He is like that guy who worked in your office once, the shy tech-geek, the temp down in IT. Until very recently, that guy was Kerry Conran.

For more than a decade, Conran was the computer nerd at a series of temporary jobs at newspapers and magazines, living in his little apartment in the San Fernando Valley. He didn't want money. No, he wanted to barter for his services, for 3-D graphic software and hard drives with

"Every job I took, it was with computer parts in mind," he says. "And that's how I built my Frankenstein."

Conran never cared much about rebooting your system. Rather, he was imagining, with a kind of mad scientist desire, rebooting the entire movie industry

And now the world can see what Conran has wrought, with the release of "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow," a movie the writer-director began envisioning when he was 10 years old.

It is a fantastical and original piece of work, that feels at once comfortable and nostalgic but weird and new. Set in 1939, it stars Jude Law as the dashing Sky Captain, Gw-yneth Paltrow as the plucky reporter Polly Perkins and Angelina Jolie as the eye-patched Franky Cook.

The actors are real. But everything else in the movie has been created on a computer. No locations. No sets. Every backdrop and scene that appears in the movie - the giant robots marching down Sixth Avenue; the hanging gardens of Shangri-La; the undersea lair of the evil mastermind Totenkopf: Radio City Music Hall - exist only on a hard drive, put together from a mélange of photographs, paintings and animation

The actors spent 26 days on a soundstage in London (most movies shoot for three or four months), performing their scenes against a completely blue background, blue

from floor to wall to ceiling, a blank canvas. And then Conran and his team added everything else — the zeppelin docking at the Empire State Building, the tiny elephant that could fit into the palm of your hand, the flying aircraft carrier, the undersea monsters.

Many action adventure movies today employ computer-animation and special effects, but they also use real locales, build elaborate stage sets and create their monsters out of plastic, foam, paint and wire. The actors in 1988's "Who Framed Roger Rabbit" were famously shot on a blue screen, but only animation was inserted around them. "Sky Captain" is different; it is one giant special effect. Conran believes that his techniques — the live-action movie taking place on a virtual set - will usher in "a re naissance of independent filmmaking." With a computer-generated world for the actors to move through, Conran says a film can take place anywhere one's imagination can go, ancient Egypt or Mars in 2054. For a fraction of the cost, he says. "The studios today are in this awkward and horri-

ble position where films cost so much money to make, they have to be cautious so they can appeal to the broadest audience, so that is half the point of this experiment, to see if independent filmmakers and studios can both take chances again, to think differently."

Looking at Conran - even now, at the Paramount lot, dressed in short pants, sneakers and ball cap, a big overgrown kid at 38 - it is hard to imagine how he secured the talents of three of Hollywood's most bankable stars and was given a reported \$70 million to create his vision.

Conran left his hometown of Flint, Mich., the first in his family to do so, to attend CalArts, the filmmaking school in Los Angeles Around this time Conran began to think about the possibility of making a movie entirely on a computer. The software was growing more sophisticated by the day. After graduation, on a Macintosh IIci he bartered for, he began the early version of "The World of Tomorrow." Animating his giant robots. Constructing his virtual Manhattan. After four years, he had six minutes of film.

One night a friend of a friend, Marsha Oglesby, a Hollywood producer, came by for dinner and persuaded Conran to show her the six minutes. She was blown away by its look and feel. She showed the movie to her boss, Jon Avnet, who showed it and the script to Jude Law, who showed it to Gwyneth Paltrow, and then they brought in Italian producer Aurelio De Laurentiis for financing and Paramount bought the domestic rights.

The industry trades estimate the movie eventually cost \$70 million to make. Not cheap. Conran says he is not an accountant, shrugs and says, "What the movie cost is one-quarter to one-third of a live-action summer movie like 'Van Helsing' or 'Spider-Man.'

Winfrey, Cruise host peace prize concert

Tom Cruise and Oprah Winfrey will host the Nobel Peace Prize Concert in Oslo, Norway, honoring the 2004 laureate, Kenyan environmentalist Wangari Maathai

Peace Prize is about "

"They really wanted to do it, right from the start," concert organizer Odd Arvid Stroemstad told The Associated Press by telephone Wednes-"They clearly know what the Nobel concert is and what the Nobel

As masters of ceremony for the Dec. 11 concert, Winfrey and Cruise will share the stage with plenty of high-profile entertainment.

Joss Stone, Andrea Bocelli, Diana Krall, Cyndi Lauper and Patti La-Belle, along with several Norwegian

artists, are among those scheduled to perform Stroemstad said other celebrities are likely to be added

The Nobel concert will be carried live in more than 100 countries and traditionally draws some of the biggest names in show business. Last year, the event was hosted by Hollywood husband-and-wife Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones

Parker's remains may be moved

The American Jazz Museum Board is considering moving jazz musician Charlie Parker's remains to a new grave

The board voted Tuesday to explore the idea of moving Parker's remains to the 18th and Vine District in Kansas City, Mo. The vote was prompted by a recent trash dumping at Lincoln Cemetery, where Parker is buried

The board favors moving Parker's remains to a mausoleum in a sculpture of Parker at Charlie Parker Memorial Plaza, near the jazz museum. "It would be good to move it (the grave) from an area

where no one can find it to down here where ... people can come and pay their respects," said board member Mike

Before any final decision is made, the board will research the legal requirements and costs of such a move.

Filmmaker Moore offers scholarship

Michael Moore promised to endow a scholarship at California State University, San Marcos, where administrators had canceled his scheduled appearance because of his partisan politics.

The "Fahrenheit 9/11" filmmaker addressed about 10,000 people off-campus Tuesday night at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, promising \$5,000 per academic year to a student who 'stands up the most to the administration of Cal State San Marcos."

Moore's documentary criticizes the policies of the Bush administration following the Sept. 11 terror attacks. I hope to encourage students in

the future to do the true American thing and stand up for what they believe in," said Moore, who was accom-panied onstage by folk singer Joan Baez. They sang "America the Beautiful" together.



About 200 demonstrators gathered outside the entrance to the fairgrounds.

A few were removed from the audience when they tried

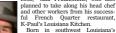
to disrupt Moore's talk, said San Diego sheriff's Lieutenant Don Fowler

Cajun meals ready to eat

Call it K-Paul rations.

Paul Prudhomme, the New Orleans chef who made blackened redfish famous, prepared Tuesday to take 4,000 pounds of his food and seasonings to feed hungry troops at the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

"There's no better audience for a guy who loves to cook." said Prudhomme, who also planned to take along his head chef



Cajun country, Prudhomme learned to cook at home and honed his skills early in his career at New Orleans' famed Commander's Palace restau-

The menu for the Guantanamo

event reflects his Cajun heritage and numerous other influences beans and rice, gumbo and more eclectic selections such as teriyaki cream pasta and gingersnap gravy with bronzed beef tenderloin.

Friday night, at the base's Windjammer Club, Prudhomme was slated to prepare a meal for the troops and their families

Saturday, he provides cooking demonstrations and tast-

The event was being held as part of the Navy Exchange's annual Customer Appreciation Day at Guantanamo.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



for Chicago's winter

Dear Tom and Ray: My wife thinks it's a good idea for you guys to do a "sanity check" on me. Here's my plan: I have a good, 1995 Nissan Maxima that I've owned since new. Our daughter is leaving her car, a 2002 Toyota RAV4, at our house all winter, while she is

away. Rather than just have her (we

side

Click and Clack Tom and Ray Magliozzi

only have a two-car garage, which houses the Maxima and my 1993 Mazda Miata), I thought I would sell my Maxima, drive my daughter's RAV4 for the winter, and when she returns, buy the car of my dreams, a Mini Cooper. My wife is concerned that the Chicago (where we live) win-ters will overwhelm the Mini. So, are you going to help me out here and proclaim my plan a

winner? — Don TOM: Don, it's a good thing you enclosed a 20-dollar bill along with your letter. Other-wise, we might have been tempted by your wife's \$20, which arrived a week later

RAY: I actually like the idea of you driving the RAV4 during the winter: it's better for your daughter's car than just sitting in the driveway for months on end. So, that part of the plan

makes good sense to me.

TOM: But in all honesty, I would have to say that the Mini is not a great car for the Chicago winter. It's got front-wheel drive, so it's not as bad in the snow as the Miata. But it's still small and light, and low to the ground. Four snow tires would help, but it won't be nearly as

good as your Maxima.

RAY: So, I think you're going to need three cars, Don.
TOM: Three cars! That's

going to go great your huh. with Don

RAY: You need to keep the Maxima. It's a perfectly good car, and it will serve you well when the weath-

er is lousy.
TOM: In the summer, when the weather is great, you'll put the top down and drive the

RAY: And in the spring and fall, when it's not convertible weather but there's no snow or ice on the roads, you'll drive your Mini. How's that sound? TOM: Is that your wife we

hear in the background? Was that the crack of a rolling pin hitting your head? And the crum ling up of our column?

RAY: Well, if that's not finan-

cially or maritally feasible, another option is to sell the Miata Wait! Before you shout "no!" lis ten to the rest of our plan: Then you buy the new Mini Cooper convertible. Not bad, huh? Huh?

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this click and clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of cars.com on the World Wide Web, Distributed by

Mini not enough car Pension promise no guarantee

BY JONATHAN WEISMAN The Washington Post

With just eight years to go, Steve Derebey had been eyeing his mandatory retirement age with something close to relief.

A commercial airline pilot, the 52-year-old would not be worry-"about guys behind [him] box cutters," he said. Just as with box cutters," he said. Just as important, his \$66,000-a-year pension would leave him and his wife, Jeane, free to travel from their home in Gig Harbor, Wash., to visit the grandchild in Crystal Lake. Ill., who is due in January.

Last month, in a Chicago bank ruptcy court, United Airlines almost certainly changed the rest of the Derebeys' life, warning that it will likely dump its pension plan

onto the federal government.
Under the rules of the federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. (PBGC), Derebey would be left with \$22,000 a year, a third of his expected benefit. Now, he and his wife are hastily planning a second career, a long one, they say, maybe running their own public

lations shop in Seattle. "Instead of being able to retire, see our kids, we're probably going to have to work until we Jeane Derebey said.

The Derebeys' misfortunes are part of a phenomenon that is re-shaping the financial landscape America's retirees. As the baby boom generation retires and people live longer, both Social Security and privately funded pen sions - the two basic legs of American retirement income are under increasing financial pressure.

Yet beyond a vague debate

over the future of Social Security. neither President Bush nor Sen. John F. Kerry, D-Mass., made much mention of looming pension and savings problems, despite pleas for federal intervention from unions, employers and

'Go onto the Bush and Kerry Web sites, looking 44 Instead of being for the word 'pension," said James A. Klein, president able to retire, see of the employ-er-backed American Benefits Coun-"You don't see a heck of a lot.

even the PBGC itself.

It is an issue, however, that could land in the lap of taxpayers and the next presi-

dent. The collapse of the stock market bubble cut the value of many pension fund investments, and left company-funded programs scrambling to meet the demands of an aging workforce. The PBGC, the federally backed insurer of pension funds, is having to raise its premiums to cover the cost of defaulted programs, putting the plans that remain under even more financial

"There is a possibility of a looming train wreck that could cost the taxpayers of America untold bil-lions of dollars," Senate Com-merce Committee Chairman John McCain, R-Ariz., warned last week. The pessimism is widespread

among labor unions and business executives alike. The traditional pension sys-

tems that once guaranteed a retirement income until death are in sharp decline. The airlines are only the latest industry to begin dismantling their plans. Between 2001 and 2003, 16 steel compa-nies terminated their pension plans, leaving 256,800 workers, retirees and dependents at the gates of the PBGC Just last week, the PBGC an-

nounced it would take over the pension plan of Kaiser Aluminum The domino effect may be in

full swing. As more plans go under, the PBGC has had to steadily raise the premiums it charges to insure company pensions, from \$1 an employee in 1975 to \$8.50 10 years later, to a charge today of \$19, plus a variable premium for troubled compa nies that can push per-employee costs to more than \$60, said Sylvester Schieber, vice presi-dent of research and information for the consulting firm Watson Wyatt Worldwide.

still has not been enough. PBGC Director Bradley D. Belt

said last week that his agency's deficit for the fis cal year that ended Sept. 30 ended Sept. 30 would eclipse the previous previous year's record \$11.2 billion deficit. A slew of bankruptcies could leave taxpayers holding the bag.

until we die. Jeane Derebey

our kids, we're

probably aoina

to have to work

longer-term solvency of the pension insurance program ... is at risk," Belt told the Senate Commerce Committee

Deficient as they are, those rising premiums are one of the factors pushing traditional pensions toward extinction, Schieber said. In 1978, there were 128,401 such pension plans covering nearly 41 percent of the private-sector workforce, according to the nonpartisan Employee Benefit Re-search Institute (EBRI). Now there are 26,000, covering just under 17 percent.

In their place have come 401(k)s and other defined contribution plans, where risk is shifted from employer to employee, and contributions are fixed but benefits are left to the markets to determine. The number of such plans has swelled to 840,301 from 314,592 in 1978. About 42 million workers participate in such plans, far more than ever enjoyed a traditional pension.

But with that shift has come uncertainty.

Last month, EBRI found average 401(k) balances had grown by 17 percent since 1999, despite the shocks to the stock market that knocked total stock prices down by \$7 trillion — or 42 per-cent — between 1999 and 2002.

But by the end of 2003, the account balances of experienced workers in their fifties — the ones closest to retirement — were 9.3 percent lower than they were four years before.

INDEXES							
52- High	week Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	chg ·	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
10,753.63 3,389.20	9,497.72 2,743.46	Dow Jones Industrials Dow Jones Transportation	10,002.33 3,282.43	-74.85 -56.55	74 -1.69	-4.32 +9.16	+2.03 +14.62
302.41 6,798.12	243.26 5,812.25	Dow Jones Utilities NYSE Composite	299.13 6,556.53	-3.14 -53.18	-1.04 80	+12.08 +1.80	+18.50 +10.46
1,291.81 2,153.83	1,014.66	Amex Index Nasdaq Composite S&P 500	1,273.40 1,920.53	-3.56 -4.64	28 24 73	+8.51 -4.14 +.16	+25.14
1,163.23 618.46 606.42	1,018.32 528.13 503.88	S&P SUU S&P MidCap Russell 2000	1,113.65 587.43 569.42	-8.19 -5.03 -7.29	73 85 -1.26	+.16 +1.98 +2.25	+6.39 +8.64 +7.98
11,371.14	9,890.89	DJ Wilshire 5000	10,881.01	-81.95	75	+.75	+6.94
	NYSE	А	MEX		Nas	DAQ	
Most A	CTIVE (\$1	OR MORE) MOST ACTI	VE (\$1 OR MORE)	Mos	т Астіу		R MORE)
Name Ve	ol (00) L	ast Chg Name Vol (00) Last Cho	Name	Vol (00) Lasi	Chg

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

Most	ACTIVE	(\$1 or	MORE)	Most	ACTIVE	(\$1 or	MORE)	Most	ACTIVE	(\$1 or	MORE)
Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Voi (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Lucent	317256	3,42	+.04	Nasd100Tr	1283495	35.65	07	Intel	1472288	20.99	+.71
Pfizer	291933	29.55	31	SPDR	524579	111.54	99	SiriusS	932875	3.74	01
Accenture	282063	23.93	-2.65	SemiHTr	315537	30.74	+.54	Cisco	723318	18.85	30
Calpine	252296	2.33	18	iShRs2000	85979	113.20	-1.67	Yahoo s	492926	34.96	+.73
Merck	238716	30.07	78	DJIA Diam		100.08	91	Microsoft	485103	28.03	-
NokiaCp	165583	13.98	+.18	SP Engy	70575	34.73	74	ApidMati	405190	16.39	+.23
Textrist	158587	21.73	+.43	OilSvHT	56914	79.77	96	Oracle	403358	11.99	16
GenElec	150911	33.71	31	WheatR o	40339	3.08	06	SunMicro	362998	4.02	05
ExxonMbl	146358	48.48	89	BemaGold		2.96	05	ApplDial re	298152	3.57	+1.45
Citigrp	136285	44.11	69	iShJapan	31267	9.82	09	JÚS Uniph	170753	3.21	+.02
KEY DEFENSE STOCKS KEY MUTUAL FUNDS											
Name		DIV PE	Las	t Chg 9	YTD 6Chg	Name			NAV	Chg.	YTD %Ret

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	XCh:
Alliant Technosystem		14	57.23	96	
Armor Holdings		40	41.33	-1.22	+57.
Boeing	.80	16	50.23	17	+19.
Computer Sciences	-	17	47.96	89	+8.
Engineered Sup Sys	.04	19	47.17	42	-14.
General Dynamics	1.44	18	100,30	-1.10	+11.
General Electric	.80	22	33,71	31	+8.
Halliburton	.50		33,78	32	+29.
Harris Corp.	.48	29	57.67	42	+52.
Allied Signal	.75	22	35.12	22	+5.
L-3 Communications	.40	20	63.87	-1.33	+24.
Lockheed Martin	1.00	21	54.66	76	+6.
NorthrpG s	.92	20	51.66	34	+8.
Raytheon	.80	78	35.92	48	+19.
Rockwell Intl.	.66	22	38.55	39	+8.
Segua Corp.		39	52.11	64	+6.
Texas Instruments	.10	22	21.73	+.43	-26.
Textron Inc.	1.30	33	63.66	-1.19	+11.
United Technologies	1.40	17	90.50	-1.82	-4.

			Y
Name	NAV	Chg.	%Ref
Fidelity Invest: GroInc	35.86	23	+1.5
Fidelity Invest: GroCo	49.38	24	-1.
Amer Century Inv: Ultra	26.63	13	- 4
Fidelity Spartan: Eqldx	39.53	29	+1.
Putnam Funds A: GrinA p	17.91	13	+2.
Fidelity Invest: A Mgr	15.55	05	+.
Frank/Temp Fmk A: SMCpGrA	30.00	16	- 5
AIM Investments A: Const p	20.66	17	-4.
Fidelity Invest: USBI	11.21	+.02	+3.
Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea	31.43	17	
Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT Fidelity Advisor T: EgInT	28.04 26.59	15 17	-2. +3.
Scudder Funds S: GroIncS	20.18	-17	+3.
Putnam Funds A: GlbEoty o	7.56	-04	+1.
AIM Investments A: ChartA o	11.91	- 09	+3
AIM Investments A: WeingA p	11.78	04	-2.
Merrill Lynch I: BalCapl	26.62	15	+17
Sounder Funds St. Intl EdS	39.48	+.02	+2.
Fidelity Advisor T: OvrseaT	15.70	- 09	
Lord Abbett A: DevGtA o	14.16	14	-5.0
Soudder Funds S: Income S	13.03	+.02	+4.
Merrill Lynch I: USGvtMtg	10.32		+2.
Soudder Funds S: Devel	17.46	10	-7.
Putnam Funds A: GIGvA p	12.45	02	+2.

Military rates Euro (Oct. 14) British pound (Oct. 14) Japanese yen (Oct. 16) South Korean won (Oct. 15) Commercial rate Bahrain (Dinar)107.00 British pound ... Canada (Dollar) Denmark (Krone Egypt (Pound)... Euro......

XCHANGE RATES

Egypt (Pound)
Hong Kong (Dollar)
Hungary (Forint)
Iceland (Krona)
Israel (Shekel)
Japan (Yen)
Kuwait (Dinar)
Norway (Krone)
Philippines (Peso)
Saudi Arabia (Riyah)
Singapore (Dollar)
South Korea (Won)
Switzerland (Franc)
Thailand (Baht)
Turkey (Lira) Thalland (Balt).

Thalland (Balt).

Turky (Lina).

PRECIOUS METALS

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate4:
Discount rate2.
Federal funds market rate1.
3-month bill1.
30-year bond4.1
Sources: The Associated Press, Bank

ents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

Be ready for interview

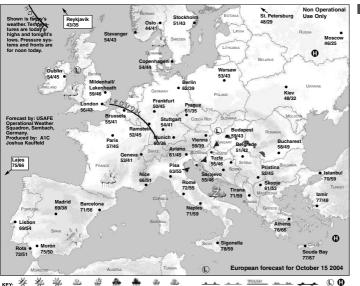
NEW YORK - What you say during a job interview can impress or distress your potential emplover.

Preparation is the key, according to Patricia Fripp, a speech coach based in San Francisco. Working on your responses to interview questions beforehand can keep you from getting nervous, forgetting what you wanted to say or otherwise fumbling the question

■ Do some research, "Surprise the person you're interviewing with how much you know about the company," she advised.

■ Write down your responses on note cards. This will help you think of questions you might be asked, as well as organize your thoughts.

■ Rehearse. Have friends ask you interview questions and honestly critique each response.



EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Cloudy with rainshowers and gusty winds. Highs in the mid 50s, Saturday lows in the low 40s.

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with rainshowers and gusty winds. Highs in the mid to upper 50s, Saturday lows in the low to mid

Croatia and Bosnia: Mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 50s, Saturday lows in the mid 40s.

France: Mostly cloudy with rainshow-ers. Highs in the upper 50s to mid 60s, Saturday lows in the mid 40s to

Northern Germany: Cloudy with rain-showers. Highs in the low 50s to low 60s, Saturday lows in the upper 30s to mid 50s.

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. Highs in the low 50s to low 60s, Saturday lows in the mid 30s to mid 40s.

Hungary: Mostly cloudy with rain-showers. Highs in the upper 50s, Saturday lows in the low 40s.

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 60s, Saturday lows in the mid 40s to mid 50s.

Southern Italy: Mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms and gusty winds. Highs in the low 70s, Saturday lows in the mid to upper 50s.

Kosovo: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the low 50s, Saturday lows in the low to mid 40s.

Norway: Mostly cloudy with rainshow-ers. Highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s, Saturday lows in the low 40s. Portugal, Spain: Partly to mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s to mid 70s, Saturday lows in the upper 30s to mid 50s.

Turkey: Sunny to mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low to upper 70s, Saturday lows in the upper 40s to upper 50s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home



SUN & MOON

New moon Nov 12

THE UNITED STATES TODAY

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

AFRICA

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Scheduled to ETS



Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.



Horoscope

The Scorpio moon adds a mysterious glow to the atmosphere. Mercury slips into Scorpio as well, where he'll be visiting until Nov. 4.

he'll be visiting until Nov. 4. You may have deeper questions about situations you once took for granted. Curiosity is peaked in regard to the inner workings of things. Knowing what's below the surface seems more important than before.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY
(October 15). Your work
may be thorough and painstaking, but it pays off in a
grand way this year! You'll
be so proud of what you've
accomplished! The next seven
weeks teach you that you can depend on loved ones to generously
help you as long as you spell out
what you need. Some of you will

Love signs are Aries and Leo.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).
Signs are posted to tell you which
way to go. It's a matter of tuning
your senses to what you are seeing,
hearing and feeling. Discern the
good opportunities from the ones
that seem good but are really only of

move to a new house in February.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Make sure that you don't take your loved ones for granted. They are looking to you for support, and any misstep made now will count against you for weeks. You're not the only one who can hold a grudge, you

marginal benefit.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

Your sign rules the butterfly, and you can be very much like this graceful insect, flitting from person to person, enjoying each but not staying long. Give a second look to relationships, keeping an open mind about commitment.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

You're hardly the hasty type, but you are prone to making fast decisions now. You could spontaneously walk out the door in the middle of the workday in order to embark on the next adventure. Loved ones enjoy this new you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If everyone thinks of himself or herself first, there's bound to be a fight. The conflicts you witness may as well be between kindergarteners in the sandbox. It takes someone mature to see a solution. Be that mature someone

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).
You'll be paid well for your skills, but

Joyce Jillson

paid well for your skills, but don't assume that you already know all there is to know about your work. If you let a sense of curiosity and discovery creep back into your process, you'll gain ener-

process, you'll gain energy and exuberance.

LIBRA (Sept.
23-Oct. 23). Some

people actually believe that it's dangerous to be happy! Luckily for those people, Libras exist in the

world, a reminder that peace, harmony and, yes, happiness can exist under almost any circumstance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).
You're unusually aggressive and will feel like driving fast and drinking big gulps. Careful now! Socially, you're drawn to that good-looking acquaintance, so much so that you could say things you'll later regret.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Benjamin Franklin said it best, "He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else."

Keep your ears peeled for such defenses, and don't utter them

yourself. There is nothing to justify CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). You've got a good grasp on the future — it's as if you're standing on top of a mountain on a perfectly clear day, able to see what lies ahead for miles and miles. Look for the long-term possibilities in every opportunity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

Loyalties are tested. Stand up for your loved ones. They'll model your behavior and learn how to stand up for themselves. Tonight, go where the interesting people are — it's probably not the most popular spot, by the way.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Live details may get in the way if you allow them to. Avoid snags by maintaining what you've got. Let natural curiosity drive you toward people with potential. And trust that people who are worthwhile will see the potential in you.

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts





















Bailey

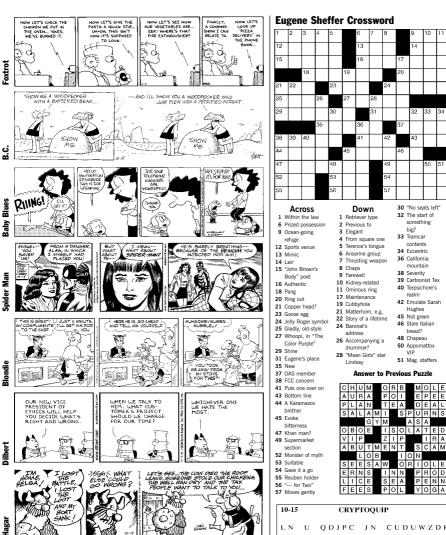












FLAWLESS LOGIC, IF EVER I'VE HEARD IT!

I'VE EATEN ALL THE DONUTS...

NOW THEY CAN'T TEMPT ME TO CHEAT ON MY DIET

ODJPC JN CUDUWZDR

RPWWZBKO RYUDYZW

UMYLBQ LBRUBZKO, L R

VUWBZRR? YGUY $V\ U\ D\ M\ G$

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A TORTOISE IS LEEPING. WOULD YOU SAY THAT YOU SLEEPING. WITNESSED A NAPPING TURTLE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals A

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

WHEN THE TREE

DOCTOR

PROMISED

TO SAVE THE

OAK HE

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Jailed boyfriend facilitates dispute

Dear Abby: My daughter, "Cindy," is 20. She's very attrac-tive, with a great sense of humor. Because of those attributes alone, she could have any terrific voung man she wants. However. Cindy has instead made up her mind to "wait for her man who will be spending the next five years in federal prison for selling drugs.

They became engaged just before he went in. Cindy went into the Navy and graduated. She is being deployed to Iraq next month. Before she leaves, she will visit her fiance in prison

I love my daughter, but this has come between us. Our relationship isn't the same as it used to be, and I am afraid that I have lost her. I have exhausted every means to stop Cindy from continuing this relationship. Have you any suggestions I might have overlooked

- Fighting For My Daughter in Nebraska Dear Fighting: Yes. Stop fighting. It will only drive your daugh ter further away. She is going into a war zone, and that kind of experience makes people grow up verv quickly. When your daughter returns, she will not be the same little girl who went away - and her priorities and

judgments may be very different than they are now. My advice is don't blow your cool and say something now you'll regret later Right now, your daughter needs all the sup port she can get.

Dear Abby: I have been dating "Ronald" for three years. He says he loves me. Ron

is still married, but swears it's only so he can keen his wife on his health insurance as he'd promised her. However, they talk every day "as friends' and have a daughter and grandchildren in common

Ron comes here (to another state) to visit me often, but I have never met his daughter or grandchildren, and he feels no urgency to introduce us. Ron has met my entire family

I feel that he is leading two lives and is happy in both worlds. I, on the other hand, feel rejected and that he's ashamed of me and our relationship. I feel left out. on the outside looking in. Any

suggestions? - Needs Validation in Oregon

Dear Needs: You have ana yzed your situation very well You ARE on the outside looking in. Whether or not your boyfriend and his wife still dwell under the same roof, they are legally married, and he is providing for her nicely. By staying married to his wife, he has assured that if any thing happens to him she will be provided for. Since you have asked for a suggestion, I suggest you take your cues from what Ronald does rather than what he

says, and find yourself a boyfriend who is eligible. Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

Unscramble these four Jumples one letter to each square.

LUPCOE Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as

Jumbles:

suggested by the above cartoon ON A

Yesterday's Answer:

(Answers tomorrow) FORGO HENNA THROAT PLAQUE What the neighbors liked to do on laundry day - "HANG" OUT

to form four ordinary words TANBO **VUEMA** WUTTIO

10-15 ©2004 Bil Keame, Inc Dist, by King Features

"Footballs aren't built for rolling."

lormon weddings sacred events

Dear Annie: I am writing in response to "Groom's Heretic Mother," whose son's fiancee, "Stacie," introduced her son to a new religion. and now her family insists his family be excluded from the wedding, which only the most faithful members of their church are allowed to attend. They

even brought missionaries to a "get-to-know-you" dinner. You advised the mother to hold a separate reception for all to attend, and you could not have given more sound advice

I am a member of this same religion: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon)

We believe that families, when married within the walls of the Temple, are not only married "till death do us part," but are sealed together beyond

the grip of mortal Annie's Mailbox death; we are married

for eternity. Because of the sacred and long-lasting nature of marriage and family. we hold it as one of the degrest and most precious doctrines in our religion, and we do not let just anyone

witness these events May I suggest the couple hold a separate ring ceremony in another building for all to attend? This simple ring ceremony will allow family and friends to be present for part of the wedding

> - Trying To Help in North Dakota

Dear N D · We received dozens of gracious and helpful letters from church members. One writer said she and her sister were allowed to witness such a ring ceremony, and wore bridesmaids' dresses and carried flow ers, which made them feel as if

they were part of the wedding Here's one more:

From Utah: Please tell the family that all Mormons are not as hurtful as the bride's family, bringing missionaries to the get-together and not evaluating

our teachings appropriately. I've been an LDS member since 1967.

The wedding could have been held at the ward by their bishop, so all of the family could witness the happy affair, then on to the Temple where the couple would enter alone while the family and close friends waited in a recep-

Our church leaders preach tolerance of others' beliefs not exclusivity.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndio 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

A 90045. Creators Syndicate











SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

Friday

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m. — NBA preseason: Sac-mento vs. Houston at Shanghai (dld). AFN-Sports, 1 p.m. — College football: Louramentó vs. Houston at Shanginai viru. AFN-Sports, I p.m. — College football: Lou-isville at Miami (dld). AFN-Sports, 8 and 9:30 p.m. — Outdoors: Wal-Mart FLW Tour (dld).

Saturday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. — College football: TCU at UAB. AFN-Pacific, 2 a.m. — Baseball: ALCS, Game 3. N.Y. Yankees at Boston. AFN-Atlantic, 2 a.m. — Auto racing: ASCAR Busch Series, The Sponge Bob Equarepants Movie 300.

Schularepants Movie 300.

AFN-Radio, 2 a.m. — Baseball: ALCS, Game 3. N.Y. Yankees at Boston.

AFN-Sports, 7:30 a.m. — College football: Air Force Football With Fisher DeBerry (did).

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m. — Baseball: ALCS, Game 3. N.Y. Yankees at Boston (did).

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m. — College football: TCU

AFN-Sports, 2 p.m. — College football: TCU

AFN-Addinite, 6 p.m. — College football:
AFN-Addinite, 6 p.m. — College football:
AFN-Sports, 6 p.m. — College football:
AFN-Sports, 6 p.m. — College football:
AFN-Pacific, 6 p.m. — College football:
AFN-Pacific, 6 p.m. — College football:
Notre Dame at Navy.
AFN-Radio, 6 p.m. — College football:
Notre Dame at Navy.
AFN-Radio, 6 p.m. — College football:

otre Dame at Navy.

AFN-Sports, 9:30 p.m. — College football: rizona St. at Southern Cal.

AFN-Pacific, 9:30 p.m. — College football: Arkansas at Auburn.

AFN-Atlantic, 10 p.m. — Baseball: NLCS, Game 3, St. Louis at Houston.

AFN-Radio, 10 p.m. — Baseball: NLCS, Game 3, St. Louis at Houston.

Sunday

AFN-Pacific, 1:10 a.m. — Auto racing:
NASCAR Nextel Cup. LUAW-GM Quality 500.
AFN-Sports, 1:10 a.m. — Baseball: ALCS,
AFN-Radio, 1:30 a.m. — Baseball: ALCS,
Game 4, N.Y. Yankees at Boston.
AFN-Sports, 4:30 a.m. — College football:
remessee at Mississippi (joined in progress). **AFN-Sports, 6 a.m.** — NBA preseason: Sacramento vs. Houston at Beijing (dld).

All times are Central European Time; dld in icates delayed broadcast. All listings are dicates delayed productast. All hading subject to change. Some radio broad not available in all areas. www.mvafn.net for more information.

Pro football

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Sunday's ga Green Bay at Detroit Miami at Buffalo Houston at Tennessee San Diego at Atlanta Washington at Chicago Washington at Chicago San Francisco at N.Y. Jets Seattle at New England Kansas City at Jacksonvil Natibas City at JACKSONVIIIE Cincinnati at Cleveland Carolina at Philadelphia Pittsburgh at Dallas Denver at Oakland Minnesota at New Orleans Open: Indianapolis, Arizona, N.Y. Giants, Baltimore

Monday's game Tampa Bay at St. Louis

NFL injury report NEW YORK — The National Foo League injury report, as provided by league:

League injury report, as provided by the league:

Sunday

CAROLINA PANTHERS (1-3) AT PHILADEL-PHILA PALE SHA (4-4) — Panthers: OUT: R Be-Shaun Foster Ishoulder); CB William Hampton (Renee); Mr. Kris, Jenkins (Shoulder); R Golder); Mr. Carolina (Note); Mr. Carol ROBABLE: LB VIIIIY CUITCII (Rinee); WR Aid ankton (hamstring); DT Kindal Moorehea (nee), **Eagles:** DOUBTFUL: CB Dexter Wyn nastring). PROBABLE: G Jermane Maybe (hicens): LB Iosh Parry (knee): T Ion Run an (arm); CB Lito Snepparu (נוונוווה), בם ason Short (ankle); TE L.J. Smith (shoulder). היאכואא Ti BENGALS (1-3) AT CLEVELAND

BROWNS (2-3) - Bengals: OUT: CB Rashad Bauman (Achilles): S Rogers Beckett (con-Bauman (Achilles); S Rogers Beckett (con-cussion). DOUBTFUL: WR Peter Warrick (shin). QUESTIONABLE: C Rich Braham (knee): S kim Harring (foot): S Kevin Kapsvi (knee); S kim Herring (foot); S Kevin Kaesvi-ham (back): DE Carl Powell (knee); PROBA-BLE: DT Matthias Askew (knee); DE Duane Clemons (pectoral); CB Reggle Mylet (groin), Browns: DOUBTFUL: LB Barry Gard-ner (groin), OUESTIONABLE: T Ryan Tucker (quadricep); DT Gerard Warren (pectoral). Guadrices): DT Gerard Warren (Sectoral).

DENYER SROWGS (4-1) AT CARLAND RAID

ERS (2-3) — Broncos: OUT: DE Trevor Prycy

Guadro, OLESTROMABEL: UB Partice Chake

(Manstring). PROBABEL: CB Roc Alexande

DOBETIVEL: BT Travials Smith (knee); CB Roc

Stone (Maney, ROC). Provided (Manstring).

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BY STONE (Maney, CB ROC). PROBABEL (Maney).

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GROW

ABLE: RB Justin Fargas (toe/leg).

GREEN BAY PACKERS (1-4) AT DETROIT
LIONS (3-1) — Packers: OUT: DT Grady Jack-GREEN BAY PACKERS (1-4) AT DETROIT LIONS (3-1) PACKERS (01T: DT GRAY) Jackson (knee); DT James Lee (knee). PROBABLE: B Na'il Diggs (neck); WR Robert Ferguson (knee); RB Ahman Green (Achilles); CB Michael Hawthorne (concussion); LB Hanibal Navies (shoulder); WR Javon Walker bal Navies (shoulder); WR Javon Walker (hand), Llons: OUT: LB Boss Balley (knee). DOUBTFUL: CB Andre' Goodman (ham-string); RB Cory Schlesinger (hamstring); OUESTIONABLE: CB Dre' Bly (knee); RB Kevin Jones (knee); WR Roy Williams (knee). PROB-ABLE: LB Earl Holmes (Achiller).

Somes (kines); Wir Roy Williams (kines); Riches

(Riches) (M. 1984; S. 2); H. T. HENSEE TI
TANS (2-3) — Treatms: DOUBTFUL: 1 Tood

(B. David Carr (anxie); S. Glern Earl (hip); Wir

(B. David Carr (anxie); S. Glern Earl (hip); Wir

(grink); C. Todd Washington (choulder); I.S.

Callies Wong (Daco: Hitens; OUT; Wir Tyrone

Lance Schulters (bod); QuESTMABEE; I.B.

(anxie); L. B. Coby (Callinia; Black); DT Alibert

(anxie); L. B. Roby (Callinia; Black); DT Alibert (ankle); G Benji Olson (groin); LB Robert Rey-nolds (hip); CB Samari Rolle (ribs); DE Juqua

Thomas (ankle).

KANSAS (TY CHIEFS (1-3) AT JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS (3-2) — Chiefs: OUT: TE Kris
Wilson (ankle) (3-2) — Chiefs: OUT: TE Kris
Wilson (ankle) (2-2) (2-2) (3-2) (3-2) (3-2)

tile (Achilles); LB Scott Fujita (ankle). PROBABLE: DE Jared Allen (Knee); CB William Bartee (neck); TE Tony Gonzalez (foot); RB
Priest Holmes (elbow); WR Eddle Kennison Priest Holmes (elbow); WR Eddie Kennison (hamstring); DE Jimmy, Wilkerson (knee). Jaguars: QUESTION/RABLE: DE LIQUE Barnes; Allesting and the price of the price

MAMI DOPPINES (0-5) AT BUPFALO MALE

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AND Deshea Townsend (Achilles). Cowboys: T: RB Julius Jones (shoulder). AN DIEGO CHARGERS (3-2) AT ATLANTA

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS (3-2) AL ALLANIA FALCONS (4-1) — Chargers: DOUBTFUL: C Nick Hardwick (knee). DUESTIONABLE: RB Jesse Chatman (toe): DE DeQuincy Scott (knee). PROBABLE: WR Tim Dwight (toe): S Terrence Kiel (ribs): RB LaDalnian Tomlinson (groin): Falcons: OUT: TE Frie Beverly (shoulder); CB DeAngelo Hall (hip). QUESTION-ABLE: LB Chris Draft (toe); DE Travis Hall (shoulder); DE Antwan Lake (ankle); CB Jason Webster (knee). PROBABLE: LB Keith

Jason Weisher (Ince). PROBABLE II Selbi SAN FRANCES OFFIS: 14–3 TANY YORK JETS (49) — Sees OV. F. BACK CARRY SAN FRANCES OV. BACK CARRY FOR THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OFFI OFFI OFFI OFFI OFFI OFFI SAN FRANCES OV. BACK CARRY SAN FRANCES OV. BAC SEATILE SEAHAWIS (3-1) AT NEW EN-GLAND PATRIOTS (4-0) — SEAHAWISS (01T. LE Chad Brown (fibula), DUESTIONABLE: P TOM ROUGH (right hamstring). DT Cedric Woo-dard (toe). PROBABLE: S Ken Hamilin (toe): LB Anthony. Simmons (shoulder). Patriots: DOUBTFUL: WR Deion Branch (knee). DUES-TIONABLE WR Troy Brown (shoulder). Bat Brady (right shoulder); RB Im Miller (right Brady (right shoulder); RB Im Miller (right

Wednesday
At Olympic Stadium

If Men, \$1 million (Intl. Series);
Women, \$1.3 million (Tier I)
Surface: Carpet-Indoor
Singles
Men

The Bound Mên First Round Filippo Volandri (7), Italy, def. Robin Soder-ing, Sweden, 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (6), Igor Andreev, Russia, def. Vince Spadea 4), United States, 6-4, 4-6,6-4. shoulder).

WASHINGTON REDSKINS (1-4) AT CHICAGO
BEARS (1-3) — Redskins: OUT: DE Phillip
Daniels (groin). DOUBTFUL: LB Mike Barrow
(knee). QUESTIONABLE: LB LAVar Arrington

(knee); DT Joe Salave'a (calf), PROBABLE: G Ray Brown (hamstring); T Kenyalta Jones (ankle); S Andre Lott (hamstring); RB Chad Morton (knee); CB Shawn Springs (ankle); DE Ron Warner (ankle), Bears OUT: SE Charles Tillman (knee); OUESTIONABLE: CB Jerry Azumah (neck); DT Allorgo Boote (elbow); G Rex Tucker (elbow), PROBABLE: LB Brigh Uffalher (hamstring) ; G Ruben Brown (knee); C Olin Kreutz); G Rex Tucker (elbow). PROBABLE: in Urlacher (hamstring). 4 Namer (1997). AT NEW OR-SAINTS (2-3) — Vikings: OUT: RB

AMMESOTA VINIONS (E.M. TI NEW OBLEANS AMINI 20.3) — Visiones UII - 80
LEANS AMINI 20.3
LEA

Pro basketball

NBA preseason glance

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ngton U Z WESTERN CONFERENCE Pacific Division

Wednesday's games
Atlanta 96, Orlando 88
Detroit 105, Boston 103
Milwaukee 89, Minnesota 84
Phoenix 105, L.A. Clippers 83
Portland 92, Seattle 73
Thursday's games
Sacramento vs. Houston at Shanghai,

China New Jersey vs. New York at Wilkes-Barre,

Kremlin Cup

colo. Portland at Golden State Friday's games Philadelphia at Toronto Orlando vs. Miami at Tampa, Fla. New Orleans at Chicago

Tennis

L.A. Clippers L.A. Lakers

Denver Utah

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GB

GB Pct

Petrova (8), Russia, 0-6, 5-3, 5-4.
Svetlana Ruznetsova (4), Russia, def. Michaela Pastikova, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-4.
Vera zvonareva (6), Russia, def. Karolina Sprem, Croatia, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.
Luxembourg, 7-5, 6-3.
Doubles

Luxembourg, 7-5, 6-3.
Doubles

to, Argentina, (**), o-kmeen First Round Lindsay Davenport and Corina Morariu, United States, def. Eva Birnerova and Libuse Prusova, Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-2. Suarze (1), Argentina, def. Vera Douchevina and Galina Voskoboeva, Russia, 6-2, 6-2. Bena Dementive, Russia, 6-3, 6-2. Suarze (1), Argentina, def. Vera Douchevina and Galina Voskoboeva, Russia, 6-3, 6-2. Suarze (1), Argentina, def. Vera Douchevina Bena Dementive, Russia, 6-3, 4-6, 6-1, and Marrya Koryttseva, Ukraine, 6-3, 4-6, 6-1.

CA Trophy Wednesday At Wiener Stadthalle Wiener Stadthalle Wiener Stadtha Purse: \$\$47,225 (Intl. Gold) Surface: Hard-Indoor Singles First Round

Surples

Paradom Sighthaphur (S). halland, def. Albert Cook as Carlot S, and Carlot S,

Open de Moselle

Wednesday
At Palais Omisports des Arenes de Metz
Metz, France
Purses \$446,950 (Intl. Series)
Surface: Harri-Indoor
Singles
First Round
Gael Monfils, France, def, Xavier Malisse
(2), Belgium, 3-5, 7-5 (d), retired, def, Wayne

Arburn, 3-0, 7-0 (4), retired.
Gregory Carraz, France, def. Wayne
Arthurs, Australia, 7-6, 6-7, 7-6 (6).
Second Round
Jerome Haehnel, France, def. Marc Gicquel, France, 6-4, 6-2.

Arthuria, Australia, 7-6, 57-7, 68.

Herone Hash Segon Bound.

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Tashkent Open

Wednesday At Dynamo Tennis Club Tashkent, Uzbekistan Purse: \$140,000 (Tier IV) Surface: Hard-Outdoor Singles First Round

Jonas Bjorkman, Sweden, def. David Sanchez, Spáln, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.

Second Roule, Spáln, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.

Skolan Para, Spáln, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.

Sargsiari, Armenia, 6-2, 6-4, 8-6, 10-4,

Maria, Marroro (D), Spain, def. Tatlana Antonale Serra Zahedi, Italy, def. Julia Schrift, Germany, 3-10, epicem, def. An-tonale Maria, 1-10, epicem, def. An-tonale Maria, Germany, 4-2, - Bepublic, def. Cara Black, Zimbere, def. 8-1, - 10, vakia, 7-6 (5), 7-5.

Women
First Round
Dinara Safina, Russia, def. Anna
Chakvetadze, Russia, 6-4, 1-6, 6-3.
Second Round
Francesca Schlavone, Italy, def. Nadia
Petrova (8), Russia, 0-6, 6-3, 6-4. 6-1.

Marion Bartoli, France, and Mara Santangelo (2), Italy, det. Noko Fuda, Japan, and Suchanan Virgtnyasert, Thailann, 7-5, 6-1.

Ekaterina Bychkova and Maria Goloviznina (2), 6-1.

Ara Saidkhodjaeva, Uzbekistan, 6-0, 6-1.

Quaterfinals

Adriana and Antonella Serra Zanetti (4), Italy, def. Olena Antynina, Ukraine, and Ekaterina Dzehalevich, Belarus, 6-2, 6-3.

or tie.
x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
Saturday's games
Chicago at New England
San Jose at Dallas Los Angeles at Kansas City Columbus at Colorado Sunday's gar MetroStars at D.C. United End of Regular S

Deals

Pro soccer

nicago ew England

Major League Soccer

Eastern Confe

Wednesday's transactions

American League
CLEVELAND INDIANS—Purchased the con-ract of LHP Scott Sauerbeck from Buffalo of

ne PCL. TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Released OF

Merc Currences

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Topolfor Bulle LAYS—earl rap Bo File.

Topolfor Bulle LAYS—earl rap Bo

nii not return.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

BUFFALO BILLS—Released WR Bobby BUFFALU BELLS
STANDOLLAN PANTHERS—Signed RB Joey Harris and DT Jordan Carstens from the practice
squad. Signed DT Tron LaT-aver and RB Derick Knight to the practice squad.
DALLAS COWBOYS—Released TE Mikhael
Ricks. Signed LB Jayan Fowler from the practice squad. Signed TE Landon Trusty to the

indianapolis colts—Signed QB Travis
INDIANAPOLIS colts—Signed QB Travis From to the practice squau, Resease, quo oe Hamilton from the practice squad. KANSAS CITY CHIEFS—Signed P Steve Cheek from the practice squad, Signed G KANSAS CITY CHIEFS—Signed P Steve Cheek from the practice squad. Signed G Matt Miller to the eractice squad. Miller to the eractice squad. MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Released CB Rush-er Jones Signed C Billy Conaty and CB Derek Ross. Placed WK Reehan Howy on Injured Ross. Placed WK Reehan Howy on Injured Ross. Placed WK Reehan Howy on Injured NEW YORK GANTS—Placed WR TIM Carter on LB Wes Mallard on Injured reserve. Signed LB JL, Hollowell from the practice

actice squad. Signed 1E Gape Crecion to e practice squad. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Waived CB Tod ACBride. Re-signed OL Jerry Wunsch.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Signed ason Garrett. Claimed WR Adrian Ma TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Signed OB Jason Garrett. Claimed WR Adrian Madise off waivers from the Denver Broncos. Re-leased WR Marcus Knight and WR Derrick Lewis. Signed WR Kevin Youngblood to the practice squad. Released DT Issac Hilton from the practice squad.

ractice squad.
rom the practice squad.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Placed S Matt

TANK MCNAMARA





Fort Carson troops | Americans take next step visited by Nuggets

By JOHN MARSHALL The Associated Press

FORT CARSON Colo - Set Class Terence Williams walked around the room with his red-white-and-blue basketball, chatting with players and asking

for autographs It was a nice, although brief. diversion from the reality of military life

The Denver Nuggets took a break from training camp Wednesday to visit Fort Carson, break brightening spirits just 10 days after the latest round of deployments from the Army base.

"It catches everybody at a low this time of the year with everything that's going on, so to have these guys come around, you forget about all those things least for a little while," Williams said

The Nuggets greeted about 1,000 servicemen and their families at Fort Carson's post exchange, signing autographs, posing for photos and handing out souvenirs for about two hours The players stuck around long after the autograph session and a few slipped outside to shoot baskets with kids on a temporary hoon The Nuggets figured it was the

least they could do with everything the soldiers have been through

"It's important because I want these people on this base to know that we appreciate what they do. Nuggets General Manager Kiki Vandeweghe said. "We don't have our lifestyles without the sacrifices they make on a daily basis.

"I know that there are many people here who have lost family members defending our country, and I want to make sure they know that we won't forget." The Nuggets' visit couldn't

have come at a much better time Fort Carson, just south of Colo-

rado Springs, sent 12,000 troops to Iraq last year, with 40 being killed and more than 500 wound

Another round of deployments started Oct 5 when 250 soldiers were sent back into the war zone, part of about 7,000 expected to be

deployed in the coming months.
"I guess it lets the soldiers know that we're not in it by ourselves," said Staff Sgt. Benjamin Gentle, who returned from Iraq last year. "A lot of times you see on the news, you don't see any thing from our perspective. It's always the people in the country where we're going into. It's nice to feel appreciated.

The Nuggets made sure of that by smiling, patting backs and shaking hands with anyone who walked up. Star forward Carmelo Anthony had to take a break after being swarmed by fans for more than an hour then went back out to make sure everyone left happy Forward Bryon Russell and

guard Voshon Lenard took special interest in a voungster outside at the makeshift basket, repeatedly lifting him toward the rim so he could throw the ball in more easily "It's cool. It's great to do a good deed and support the people -

some who have lost loved ones some who may be going over to Iraq — and just come out and show that we're human," Nuggets forward Kenyon Martin said

It was particularly enjoyable for Nuggets coach Jeff Bzdelik. After spending six years in the

Army National Guard, he has an understanding of what the soldiers and their families are going

"This has been a great experience, an experience we have been looking forward to so that we could show our appreciation to the servicemen and women and families - that have sacri-ficed so much for our freedom,"

Rout puts U.S. in Cup qualifying finals

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The established star was overshadowed by the kid

Landon Donovan scored twice Wednesday night, then rising sensation Eddie Johnson connected three straight times, carrying the United States into the regional finals of World Cup qualifying with a 6-0 rout of Panama In a game dominated from start to finish by the streaking Americans, it was Donovan and Johnson who left the lasting marks.

"I just want to see if I can play at this level," the 20-year-old Johnson said after scoring the first U.S. hat trick in World Cup qualifying since 1968 and only the third ever. And he did it in his second game with the national - after scoring last Saturday night in his debut at El Salva-"This is awesome. It's what you

dream of — maybe dream of just getting on the field for a few minutes or maybe scoring a goal. But

Johnson shook his head at the thought.

"You don't dream of that." he added with a big smile. The Americans' biggest victory

since beating Barbados 7-0 in 2000 moved them one huge step closer to Germany '06. They got a spot in the CONCACAF regional finals, in which the top three of six teams automatically make the World Cup field.

And they did it with an unrelenting attack that extended their longest unbeaten string to 12 games. Only a 1-0 loss to the Netherlands in February blemishes the record. They are 3-0-2 in qualifving this year

"Qualifying is all about re-sults," coach Bruce Arena said.



Eddie Johnson moves in on the ball during the U.S. World Cup qualifying game against Panama. Johnson scored three goals in the 6-0 win.

"You don't get them and you don't go to the World Cup. "The players have had a great

vear to date They were as sharp as ever against Panama, starting with Donovan, who wore the captain's armband for just the second time.

Donovan established U.S. superiority with plenty of help from his teammates, whose creative passing and speed dominated play. He received pinpoint passes on both of his goals.

Donovan's 18th goal for the na tional team and first as captain was a precision combination play with Josh Wolff. With Wolff charging into the penalty area from the left wing, Donovan headed for the goal and perfectly timed his right-footed deflection of Wolff's pass. The ball sailed beyond diving goalkeeper Donald Gonzalez in the 21st minute. Donovan made it 2-0 by break-

ing free behind the defense off a pass from Kerry Zavagnin. Donovan cut across the penalty area and, just before being sandwiched by two defenders, placed a shot into the top of the net.
"Crucial," Donovan said of ad-

vancing with one game to spare. "You don't want to worry about other results, you don't want to worry about getting a result in the sixth game. If you can finish it . . you finish it."

Bryant downplays former coach Jackson's criticism

The Associated Press SAN DIEGO - Kobe Bryant is shrug-

ging off criticism of him by former Los Angeles Lakers coach Phil Jackson. "He's just trying to sell books. I'll just leave it at that," Bryant said Wednesday at

the Lakers' training camp at the University of San Diego. "I wish him the best at whatev-



er he's doing now. I responsibilities here, and that's what I have to take care of That's it.'

The diary of the 2003-04 season, titled "The Last Season: A Team in Search of Its Soul," Jackson said he no longer wanted to coach Bryant.

The book will be released this month. but an excerpt will be published in next week's issue of Los Angeles magazine. The Los Angeles Times printed excerpts from the magazine article on Tuesday.

Jackson wrote that he became so frustrated with Bryant that he told General Manager Mitch Kupchak in January: coach this team next year if he is still here. He won't listen to anvone. I've had it with this kid

for second DUI ATLANTA - Atlanta Braves shortston

Rafael Furcal, who is serving a 21-day jail sentence for being arrested while on probation, pleaded guilty Thursday to his second drunken driving charge.

Furcal's latest sentence will run concurrently with the remaining 19 days of his current jail term in Cobb County. He en-tered jail Tuesday, the day after the Braves were eliminated from the playoffs.

After his release from jail Nov. 1, Furcal also must enter in-house alcohol treatment, serve about 10 months of probation, complete 240 hours of community service and attend a 20-hour course about drunken

The judge ruled that Furcal can return home to the Dominican Republic from Dec. 24-Jan. 2 to renew his passport

Furcal, 26, was arrested Sept. 10 in Atlanta and charged with driving under the influence, his second such offense in four years.

He had faced three days to a year in jail.

"Everything went about as well as we could expect," Furcal's lawyer, William Head, said. "From the start, we were try-ing to get him a package deal."

ANAHEIM, Calif. - Anaheim Angels

second baseman Adam Kennedy will undergo surgery Friday to repair torn ligaments in his right knee, leaving his status for spring training in question. Kennedy has a complete tear of the ante-

rior cruciate ligament and a partial tear of the medical collateral ligament. He was injured fielding a grounder against Seattle on Sept. 20.

The Angels said after Kennedy was injured that if he needed surgery, his rehabilitation could extend into spring training.

Kennedy, 28, was the MVP of the 2002 ALCS with three home runs in the clinching game against the Minnesota Twins. He batted .278 in 144 games this season with 10 homers and 48 RBIs. He also had a 54-game errorless streak

Tickets for high school game fetching pro prices

SOUTHLAKE, Texas - Tickets are moving fast - but not cheap - for Thursday's nationally televised high school football game between Southlake Carroll and Denton Ryan.

Face value on the tickets is \$6, but fans have naid more than eight times that value for the sold-out game at Dragon Stadium in the Fort Worth suburb of Southlake. Mike Walloch, a Southlake real estate in-

vestor who has sold houses on eBay, put some extra tickets on the popular Web site to stunning response.

'I'm really surprised people are going on eBay looking for high school tickets Walloch said. "It's really been amazing.

The people are just happy to have them.' Walloch sold a pair of his \$6 tickets for \$80 and sold a single ticket for \$49.99. Tickets have sold at \$44.71 for one, \$76 for two and \$90 for three according to the eBay listings. Dallas Cowboys tickets sell for as low as \$36.

Williams gets title shot against Klitschko LONDON - Danny Williams has earned

a heavyweight title shot nearly three months after derailing Mike Tyson's come-Williams will fight World Boxing Coun-

cil champion Vitali Klitschko in New York on Dec. 11. Williams stopped Tyson in the fourth round of their fight in Louisville on July 30.

hall

Peeved Rice takes trade request to Davis

ALAMEDA, Calif. - Wide receiver Jerry Rice met with Oakland Raiders managing general nartner Al Davis on Wednesday



"I told him that it doesn't look like this is going to work out," Rice said as he exited his late afternoon meeting with Davis. "And then we talked foot-

This came well after Rice drew a crowd of media around his locker, there to do more than wish him a happy 42nd birthday.

Rice said he is prepared to move on with his career, though he admits a trade before Tuesday's league deadline is not imminent. He said that he did not ask to be traded during his meeting with Davis and is unsure how the situation is going to play out.

Raiders coach Norv Turner said: "He's expressed to us his wishes, and we'll see what happens."

being a Raider but that being a bigger part of the offense means more to him.

"I'm not trying to force any-thing," Rice said. "But it doesn't make any sense for me to stay here if things keep going the way they've been. It's not up to me. If I did that. I'd be running the team.

Rice has averaged one catch per game this season. In two of the Raiders' five games, he hasn't caught a pass. The first time ended his 274-game streak of catching at least one pass.

Rice said on a Sacramento radio station Tuesday that Turner and then-quarterback Rich Gannon disrespected him by saving they were unaware of his streak being in ieopardy.

Rice also said that he was misled into thinking he would be a bigger part of Oakland's offense

Browns' war of words: Garcia and Davis debate

BEREA. Ohio - Cleveland Browns quarterback Jeff Garcia took exception on Wednesday to a made two days earlier when he described Garcia as being "skittish" during a 34-23 loss at Pittsburgh last weekend.

"I don't have a reaction to that," Garcia said when asked how he felt about Davis' characterization. "Until he plays the quarterback position, then he can understand where I am coming from.

Based on his salty delivery, Gar-cia meant to say "can't understand." But it's not the first mixed message coming out of team headquarters as the Browns (2-3) try to salvage a season that's showing

signs of slipping away. Cleveland's offense enters this week's game against Cincinnati ranked 30th in the NFL.

On Monday, Davis said Garcia, who has been sacked 13 times this season and was running from Pittsburgh's blitz on just about every snap, needed to trust his protection.

'The quarterback has to have confidence that the last time he got hit was an aberration," Davis said "He can't be skittish. He has to sit in the pocket and make throws.

Following Wednesday's practice, Davis was told that Garcia didn't seem happy about the "skittish" comment

"He probably shouldn't have been," Davis said. "That's one of those things where the media takes one word out of 12 paragraphs and paraphrases it when it is taken out of context. Jeff and I talked about it and laughed about it

Miami OB Fiedler uncertain

DAVIE, Fla. - Miami Dolphins quarterback Jay Fiedler said Wednesday he's uncertain whether a cracked rib will prevent him from playing Sunday at Buffalo. If Fiedler doesn't start, A.J. Fee-

lev said he'll be ready to step in. Both were listed as questionable, but Feeley was more optimistic about his availability after recovering from a concussion

Panthers All-Pro DT Jenkins out for season

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - All-Pro defensive tackle Kris Jenkins was lost for the season Wednesday to NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, fol-lowed by team's prognosis for upcom-ing game. (See Page 24 for complete inju-ry report provided by the league): Bills: RB Travis Henry (foot) question-

Billias Ris I rävis Henry (1001 questionale).

Buccaneers: GB Chris Simms (shoulder) doubtful.

Doubphiss: QB lay Fiedler (cracked rib)
questionable; QB A.I Feeley (concussion)

Lets: WB Santan Moss (harsstring)
questionable; QG Pete Kendall (toe) unt.

Parathers: Dr Kirs Jenkins (shoulder)
questionable; QG Pete Kendall (toe) unt.

Redshins: El Au'ar Arrington (knee)
questionable.

Redshins: El Au'ar Arrington (knee)
questionable.

P Tom Rouen strained
hamstring) auestionable.

Seahawss: P I OM ROUGH (strameu hamstring) questionable.
Texans: QB David Carr (ankle) probable; WR Andre Johnson (ankle) probable; WR Andre Johnson (ankle) probable; WR/KR Keenan Howry (Shoulder) out for season: C Matt Birk (ankle) probable: LB Chris Claiborne (calf) probable: LB EJ. Henderson (knee) doubtful.

a shoulder injury, the fourth important member of the Carolina Panthers out for the year.

The defending NFC champion is already without top receiver Steve Smith (broken leg) and No. 2 running back DeShaun Foster (broken collarbone.) Star running back Stephen Davis has also missed three games with a knee injury, leaving Carolina (1-3) thin on talent all over the field.

Let this Raider catch on with someone else

BY MARK PURDY San Jose Mercury News

SAN JOSE, Calif. - Jerry Rice has his shorts in a knot. Rich Gannon has his neck in a brace. And even a blind zebra can see where this is head-

ing for the Raiders: A farewell

party. For both men. In fact, Rice was scheduled to celebrate his 42nd birthday Wednesday with a secluded evening rendezvous. His compan-

ion was not his wife. It was Al Davis. The two men were supposed to discuss Rice's future. It's unclear which man called the meeting Keeping things murky is the Raiders' way. But the best guess is that Davis made the move, after watch-

ing and listening as Rice aired an informal infomercial through the media during the past two days. What was the infomercial product? Jerry Rice's

"I'm not trying to force anything," Rice said Wednesday, one day after he spoke of a trade as a possibility on a Sacramento radio show.

"You know, it doesn't make any sense for me to stay here if things continue going this way. ... It comes down to two things — if the team is going to let you go, or if you're just going to have to go somewhere else and play. ... I just want to get the opportu-

nity again. ... I'm not unhappy."

Oh, yes, he is. Rice has been unhappy since Week 1, when he wasn't on the field during most of the fourth quarter in Pittsburgh.

The following Sunday, he threw a small sideline hissy fit after his record streak of games with receptions ended at 274.

Since then. Rice has held his emotions closer to his chest. But he kept up a calm and steady verbal drumbeat about his belief that the Raiders aren't using him the way they should. If Davis follows his historical pattern, he will respectfully ask Rice if he would prefer to be released or dealt. And by week's end, he'll be gone.

The move is long overdue

services

Three weeks ago, after Rice's tantrum, I suggested that Rice should cut out the drama and seriously think about moving on to another NFL team. He did.



Jerry Rice has five receptions for 67 yards this year.

and he is. Wish it were that easy to predict the Sun-There are only three ways to end a NFL career -

your choice, your boss' choice, or your doctor's choice. Rice is headed for the second option. Gannon will probably have the bad luck of the third option.

When the Raiders quarterback cracked a vertebrae against Tampa Bay on Sept.26, the injury sounded clinically bad. But only when Gannon showed up in the press box last Sunday in Indianapolis did anyone outside his family get a real sense of how severe the injury must be.

Gannon was wearing a large brace from shoulders to below his ears Retiring is the right choice for Gannon, with all

the proper accolades. He's the only Raiders quarter-back of the past 20 years to lead the team into a Super Bowl. That's worth more than a litte.

Likewise. Rice should be permitted to go with some dignity. He ought to ponder retirement, too, but he never will. He may learn a tough lesson though. If the Raiders do try to trade Rice - or even release him — it's not clear what the market would be for his once-unmatchable feet and hands. One scout recently described him as "just another receiver at this stage.

Oh, another team might take a stab at Rice, based on his place in the game. But he may eventually find himself playing the same role he does now with the Raiders. The game of football is cruel. When the skills slide, they slide fast.

Parcells impressed with Roethlisberger

BY ALAN ROBINSON The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH - Asked to name the last rookie quarterback who impressed him as much as the Steelers' Ben Roethlisberger. Dallas Cowboys coach Bill Parcells immediately dropped a familiar name

Dan Marino.

"He is the best (quarterback) prospect I have seen in 10 or 15 years," Parcells said Wednesday. "I have not seen anybody come in the league like that. The only guy that I can say came in, and the first year started playing like he is playing, is Dan Marino.'

The Steelers, then on the downslide following their Super Bowl successes of the 1970s, regretted for years not drafting Marino, a local college star, in 1983. Partly because of that decision, they never did find a comparable replacement for Hall of Fame quarterback Terry Bradshaw, winning only two playoff games from 1980 through 1993

Parcells doesn't think the Steelers will ever regret taking Roethlisberger, who is 3-0 as a starter since replacing the injured Tommy Maddox. The Steelers (4-1) play at Dallas (2-2) Sunday.

Roethlisberger enjoyed one of the best all-around games in years by a Steelers quarterback Sunday, throwing for a touchdown, running for another while constantly keeping Cleveland's defense off-balance with his scrambling in a 34-23 victory.

"He is out of the pocket throw ing 50-yard passes right on the money," Parcells said. "It is not going to be without growing

pains, but I think he is in an ideal situation. They have good balance on offense. They are running the ball well. They have a good receiving corps. ... I am telling you, I am very, very impressed, and it is not just because he is an opponent.

Roethlisberger respectfully accepted the praise but detected a veteran coach employing some pregame psychological trickery.

"He's been around for a long time. He knows what he's doing. He has no problem putting those [comments] out there and trying to get inside someone's head," Roethlisberger said. "So I've just got to go and play my game and, hopefully, win the football game.

As for any comparison to Mari-Roethlisberger said that should wait for, oh, another 15 years or so. Marino threw for 61,361 yards during his 17-season NFL career, or nearly 10,000 yards more than any other quarterback in league history.

"Obviously, it's quite a compliment coming from Coach Par-Roethlisberger said.

"Being a guy who's been around a long time, he knows talent. But if I've said it once I've said it a million times, it's only been three games. It's a little too early to be putting those statements on it.

'If I can be half as good as Marino, I'll be incredibly happy.' Roethlisberger is only the

fourth non-replacement rookie quarterback since the NFL merger in 1970 to win his first three NFL starts. He has enjoyed a far better debut than the last Steelers first-round quarterback to start as a rookie — Bradshaw, who had only six touchdown passes and 24 interceptions in 1970.

Owens to Panthers: Don't expect a repeat

Philly's stronger receiving corps confronts injury-plagued Carolina in rematch of 2003 NFC title game

BY BOB BROOKOVER The Philadelphia Inquires

PHILADELPHIA - Like most messages from Terrell Owens, this one was direct.

The intended receiver was Ricky Manning Jr., the Carolina Panthers' cornerback who destroyed the Eagles' Super Bowl dreams back in January with three interceptions and intimidating coverage on Todd Pinkston

and James Thrash "I hope Ricky Manning doesn't come here thinking he's going to push us around this year, because it's not going to happen," Owens

Manning, of course, talked a lot before, during and after the Panthers' 14-3 victory over the Eagles in last season's NFC champion-

ship game. He backed it up, too. Before last year's NFC title game, Manning said, "I'm definitely not impressed with their re-

ceivers." Pinkston had an interesting reply at the time.

"Just because we don't have the big-name guys like Terrell Owens or Randy Moss doesn't mean we can't play," he said.

This week, Pinkston has remained silent and out of sight in the Eagles' locker room. Owens, on the other hand, arrived for work Wednesday with a "bring it on" message for Manning.

"This ain't what he wants right here," the star receiver said, "This ain't what he wants. If he wants to bring it, then bring it. I don't have to say a whole lot. I don't have to talk a whole lot to

pump my game up." Manning chose his words carefully Wednesday. The Panthers are 1-3 and ravaged by injuries.

Manning, meanwhile, burned Sunday for the game-deciding touchdown in the Panthers' loss at Denver

"They've got a good group of re-ceivers," Manning said of the Ea-"They've got one of the best in the game. It's going to be a great challenge. I'm looking forward to it

Even when told of Owens' comments by a reporter from the Charlotte Observer, Manning remained diplomatic.

"I've got to figure out how I'm going to stop T.O.," he said. What's going to be my technique against him, whether I play soft or whether I play hard or whether I play deep or whether I play short? I've got to come up with a game plan, and I'm pretty sure I'll mix it up pretty well and just try to keep him from knowing what I'm doing."

Whatever Manning does, it's un-



Philadelphia's Terrell Owens, right, ranks fifth in the NFC in yards receiving (364), eight in receptions (26), second in touchdown catches (six) and fourth in receiving yards per game (91.0).

likely to rattle Owens the way it affected Pinkston. Owens, at 6 feet 3 and 226 pounds, has a tremendous size and weight advantage over the 5-8, 185-pound Manning

This isn't to get anything started, but I obviously heard they were a little bit physical with some of the receivers last year," Owens said, "It's a different year, a different mind-set, and a different team.

"I feel like we have a great group of guys in the receiving corps. I'm the big brother of that group. If it's going to be a physi-cal game on Sunday, I welcome that and we welcome that.

Owens, in his ninth NFL season, has had tremendous success against the Panthers. His first career catch came against them as a rookie in 1996 with San Francisco, and his first 100-vard game came later that same season. He has 54 catches for 805 yards and nine touchdowns in his career against the Panthers.



Game time is Central European

This will be the first time, however, he has gone against Manning, who is arguably the primary on the Eagles decided to up grade the receiving corps and bring in Owens.

To be honest, I really haven't watched much of the guy," Owens said. "That's just being brutally honest. Even when I do play against guys, I don't really care about their names or any of that. I just go out and play, and he's the guy in front of me that I need to beat."

Manning said he was being honest last year when he questioned the ability of the Eagles' receiv-

ers and he does not regret it.

"At first I did," he said. "But I didn't regret it when my team responded well. My team was like, You said it, let's just go out there and prove it. What's said is said. Let's just go beyond it and try not to say any more stuff."

"I just felt I saw some weaknesses in their ... receivers last year. I felt like if I attacked them a certain way that we would suc-ceed in doing it. That's what we did. We went out there and attacked them in a certain way and it worked to perfection.

Brown gives Titans a different dynamic

BY TERESA M. WALKER

The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - The Tennessee Titans used to be



Mondays in Stars and Stripes and on Oconus.com



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happy grinding their way down the field 3 or 4 yards at a time. Chris Brown has changed that

Brown is gaining ground at a rate not even achieved by Eddie George as he was becoming the franchise's leader in career rushing yards, and it's not a surprise Coach Jeff Fisher said Wednesday the Titans knew Brown had

the potential to be special.

"We knew he had skills, and he flashed them last year," Fisher flashed them last year," Fisher said. "We were hoping that his play last year, what we saw, would turn into this type of pro-

"He's gotten help, but four touchdown runs all over 20 yards in the first five games of the season are pretty impressive

The second-year back leads the AFC with 556 rushing yards. Brown is one of only three

backs in NFL history to record four 100-yard games in his first five starts, joining Stump Mitchell and Don Calhoun.

Brown also has the sec-ond-most yards by an Oilers/Ti-tans running back in the first five games since the advent of the 16-game schedule, putting him behind Hall of Famer Earl Camp-bell's 569 in 1979 — the season Campbell was the NFL's MVP.

Houston defensive end Robaire



AFC rushing leader Chris Bro Brown is one of only three NFL running backs with four 100-yard games in his first five starts.

Smith, who played with the Titans in 2003, will try to tackle Brown on Sunday when the Tex-ans visit Nashville. Smith said he thought Brown would be good but didn't expect this.

"He has surprised me this year as far as the big, big numbers he has gotten," Smith said. "You can tell he is that type of player. He has that explosiveness

Brown was chosen AFC offensive player of the week after rushing for 148 yards and two touch-downs in Monday night's 48-27 victory over Green Bay. His TD runs 37 yards and 29 yards in the first quarter gave the Titans a cushion they never gave up.

He's averaging 5.2 yards a carry and has reached 100 yards in the first half of three games. He is why the Titans rank third in the NFL in rushing average (150).

Martin's workload keeps Jets on the run

BY ANDREA ADELSON The Associated Press

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. - Curtis Martin keeps running and shouldering the load of the ground game for the New York Jets Martin has 107 carries through

our games, and is on pace to finish with 428 carries, which would break the NFL record of 410 set by Jamal Anderson with Atlanta in 1998. Martin has had the most productive opening five games of his 10-year NFL career, but the Jets hone the 31-year-old back doesn't run out of gas.

While rushing for 77 yards on

22 carries against Buffalo last Sunday Martin took a pounding and acknowledged afterward that he was sore. But Wednesday, Martin said he felt fine and welcomes all his touches.

"I'm feeling better and better," Martin said. "I feel like my body's getting acclimated to the season more and more. I feel good. I feel just as good as when I started. I like to think I get stronger the more touches I get and I feel as though I get better.'

In addition to gaining 502 yards on the ground, Martin also has a team-leading 19 receptions. Meanwhile, backup LaMont Jordan has one carry this season for

2 yards. Only one other back has a carry this year, fullback Jerald Sowell with one for 19 yards.

Coach Herman Edwards doesn't seem concerned about Martin's durability

"Curtis is having a heck of a year," Edwards said. "He's going to run the ball. Really, he hasn't had more runs at this point than he had previously, in the last three or four years. It's not like we have overworked him or anything like that, because we haven't

But Edwards is mistaken. Martin's carries are up. By a lot, Last vear, he had 61 through the first four games. In 2002 he had 32 while struggling with injuries. In 2001, he had 90 and in 2000 he had 80. Martin usually starts slowly and ends the season fast, so it remains to be seen whether he can keep up the pace.

Jordan said the most unsetting part about sitting on the bench is watching Martin take hit after hit each week.

'It is frustrating watching him take a pounding the way he took against Buffalo," he said. "When Curtis is doing well, I'm the happiest person. When I see him taking a beating the way he was taking this weekend, that's when I get frustrated and I want to get in there and give him a break."

RACING STRIPES

Only the good drive young

Car owner's signing of high school freshman raises questions within stock-car community

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. - Next October, Chase Austin will finally be old enough to drive to the grocery store by himself

By then, though, he'll also have a full season of stock-car racing under his belt

When Hendrick Motorsports the 15-year-old high school freshman from Eudora Kan., to a developmental contract last week, it raised the question: How young is too young?

"All I know when I think back is that I wasn't ready to be signed even at 18," said 22-year-old Blake Feese, another of Hendrick's developmental drivers. "So much has changed over the years in terms of how I've progressed.

Austin doesn't seem intimidated, although he acknowledges his is an unusual situation.

"I can see where people are coming from," he said. "Sometimes I've thought I'm too young because there's so much involved with this. But if I saw some other 15-year-old have this chance, I'd

J.D. Gibbs, president of Joe Gibbs Racing, also doesn't have a problem with Austin's age.

"I don't think it's a big deal," said Gibbs, whose team's develop mental drivers are both in their early 20s. "I don't think everyone's going to rush out and sign a

How young is too young?

Who is Chase Austin? A 15-year-old race driver signed by Hendrick Motorsports. His caree is already drawing comparisons to that of the young Jeff Gordon.

What's next for him? A full season of racing in the American Speed Association's Late Model Series, where qualifying speeds are close to 100 mph

Is he too young? Austin acknowledges it might seem that way, but says he wants the chance. Motorsports insiders say he has the talent

Big picture: Austin is young. and a minority. That has helped golf and tennis pull in more fans, too. (Think Tiger Woods and the Williams sisters)

- The Associated Press

15-year-old unless he's pretty And if Austin proves himself on

the track, Gibbs said, his age won't matter to anyone. The exception would be NASCAR. which won't let a driver race on its top three circuits - Nextel Cup, the Busch Series and the Craftsman Truck — until age 18.

"If you go out there and show you're competent, there shouldn't be a problem," Gibbs said. "If you go out there and cause a bunch of issues, that's one thing. But that has nothing to do with age. There's 40-year-old guys who cause issues

Austin does have an impressive racing résumé that invites comparisons to the early years of Jeff

Austin started racing go-karts when he was 8 - and by 13, just like Gordon, was competing in full-size sprint cars. He has run

44 Pretty soon, we'll see kids in diapers and it'll be, 'He waddles well. Let's get him.' ??

Marianne Austin

Mother of 15-year-old stock-car racer Chase Austin

modifieds and late models on dirt tracks, has experience on paved tracks in the late model division and in his first year of Topless Outlaw Racing Association competition finished 11th in points and was the top rookie

And he's a sports marketer's dream. He's good-looking, personable, talented - and biracial, the son of a black father and a white

For auto racing, still searching for a way to bring more minori-ties into its fan base, that makes Austin an appealing combination of Gordon and Tiger Woods.

"I do think he's got a lot of natu-ral outstanding talent," said H.A. "Humpy" Wheeler, president of Lowe's Motor Speedway. "He's the best black American

ve seen in a race car. I'm glad Rick [Hendrick] has done this, because Rick will be able to put the kind of equipment under him that he needs to reach his potential.

"We can do all advertising we can do reaching out to African American fans." Wheeler said. "But when we have one that starts winning, that's what's going to break it wide open

Chase Austin already an up-andcoming racer at the age of 15, was recently signed by NASCAR team owner Richard Hendrick's driver development program for next season. Austin, who just celebrated a birthday last week, has been a standout in go-kart, micro sprint, full-sized sprint and late model stock car racing.

straight from high school to the NBA for years. The courts, not a lack of talent, kept Maurice Clarett from jumping to the NFL after his freshman year at Ohio State. And earlier this year, Freddy Adu made his highly anticipated Major League Soccer debut - at

Then again, they don't climb into high-horsepower machines and tear around tracks at almost 100 mnh That's how high qualify. ing speeds can run in the Ameri-Speed Association's Late Model Series, where Austin will compete next year for SS Racing.

But there's precedent for other young drivers doing well not only on short tracks, but on super-

There's Gordon, of course, who broke into Cup competition at 21 and won his first championship at

BUSCH SERIES

This week: The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie 300 at Coricord, N.C. (Live, 2 a.m. Saturday, AFN-Atlantic). Lastrace: Joe Nemechek held off Greg Biffle by .041 of a second to win the Mr.

the season's largest margin of victory, 12.628 seconds. The race was post-poned one day because of rain, causing it to start eight hours before the Nextel

Next race: Sam's Town 250, Oct. 23,

Last year: Greg Biffle bega 00-mile day by winning the rain oned Little Trees 300 at Concord

"The theory prior to Jeff Gor-

don is that nobody started winning major long-distance races in the U.S., whether that was in Winston Cup or the IRL, until they were about 28." Wheeler said. "Jeff Gordon came along and shot that theory down

"That perpetuated what I call Pop Warner Racing, Now a few years after him, you've got all these kids racing

Shelby Howard became AR-CA's youngest race winner at age 16 in 2002. Last year, at 17, he became the youngest driver to win on a big track in any circuit.

"Ultimately, the great thing about sports racing is that either you're good or you're not," Gibbs said. "I think Rick saw a good opportunity to partner up with a good talent for the future.

Austin's mother Marianne made light of the debate over her son's age.

"Pretty soon, we'll see kids in diapers and it'll be, 'He waddles well. Let's get him.' "she said. onds behind Adrian Fernandez, who claimed his second straight victory and

NASCAR NEXTEL CUP

Race 31: UAW/GM Quality 500. 1 a.m. Sunday CET. AFN-Pacific.

Last race: Pole-sitter Joe Nemechek com pleted the sweep at Kansas Speedway with his win in the Banquet 400.

Last year: Tony Stewart chased down Rvan Newman over the final stretch to win the UAW-GM Quality 500.

DRIVERS TO WATCH





Jimmie Johnsen, the leader the first man in a scaling based on the leader the first man in a scaling based to forace playoff, up as a freeis in free-fall with man race to the ling to add to his air mose to go. title, carri afford career victory title, but another He's been fast at the heart work of the carried to th

FAST FACTS



Jimmie Johnson 187.052 mph, 2004 Nextel Cup race record Jeff Gordon, 160.306 mph, Oct. 10, 1999.

has four straight top-10 finishes... Two-time NASCAR champion Terry La-bonte announced Tuesday he will run about 10 races in each of the next two seasons before retir-

POINTS RACE After 30 of 36 races

1. Kurt Rusch 5.685 2. Dale Fambardt Jr. 5,656 3. Jeff Gord 4. Elliott Sadler 5.542 5.535 5.512 6. Tony Stewart

7 Matt K 5 505 8. Ryan N 5.453 10. Jeremy Mayfield 5.428

11. Jamie McN av 3.736 12. Dale Jarrett 3,654 14. Kasey Kahne 3 549 15. Bobby Lab 3,540 rip 3,279 17. Rusty Walls 3.219 18 Core Riffle 3 182

3.175

19. Jeff Bu

FORMULA ONE

Grand Prix.

Next race: Brazilian Grand Prix, Oct.
24, San Paulo. INDY RACING

This week: Chevy 500 at Fort Worth, exas (Tape-delayed, 9:30 a.m. Monday,

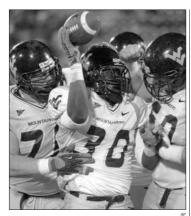
claimed his second activities the first series and the left series. Last year: A terrifying crash that left kenny Brack badly injured ended the season-finale Chevy 500 five laps early, sending Gil de Ferrán to victory lane in his last career start and giving run-CRAFTSMAN TRUCK

Last race: Silverado 350K at Fort Vorth, Texas (Tape-delayed, 5 a.m. worth, fexas (Tape-delayed, 5 a.m. Tuesday, AFN-Sports). Last race: Todd Bodine ended Ted Musgrave's three-race winning stread at California Speedway with his victory in the American Racing Wheels 200 on Oct. 2.

Last year: Brendan Gaughan came rom the back of the pack and won the ame track. Next race: Kroger 200, Oct. 23, Martins-

CHAMP CARS

Last race: Sebastien Bourdais held off lewman-Haas teammate Bruno Junquiera in a side-by-side battle to the Las Vegas 400 for his sixth vict. 2004. Bourdals won by 0.066 sec the sixth-closest finish since 1979. Next race: Oct. 24, Surfer's Para Australia.



West Virginia's Pernell Williams celebrates with teammates Travis Garrett, left, and Tim Brown, right, after scoring a touchdown.

Marshall makes up for WVU mistakes

BY DONNA TOMMELLEO The Associated Press

EAST HARTFORD, Conn. West Virginia coach Rich Rodriguez was more concerned about the 89 yards in penalties than the 300-plus vards of rushing offense niled up by his Mountaineers

"That's the first thing I told the team after the game." Rodriguez said. "We preached it and some of them just killed offensive drives. One took away a touchdown.

But Rasheed Marshall made up for most of the mistakes Wednes day night as 17th-ranked West Virginia racked up 309 vards on the ground in a 31-19 victory over Connecticut.

A first-half penalty nullified a 51-yard TD run by Adam Jones on a reverse, and the Mountaineers had to settle for a 10-6 lead at the half

Marshall, a senior quarterback, helped West Virginia overcome its mistakes, rushing for 110 yards, throwing for a touchdown and even punting a quick kick.

He sensed he could have a big night on the ground against the Huskies

"I thought I would have a chance, especially how tight their linebackers play to the line of scrimmage," Marshall said. "I thought if I could get outside a lot on them I could nut them in for a long day.'

One more day like that and Marshall will rewrite the Big East record book. His 1,518 yards rushing is 44 yards shy of the career quarterback mark held by Syracuse's Donovan McNabb

"He was very sharp today mensaid Rodriguez, who thought his quarterback could have racked up even more yards if he staved inbounds more, "I had to remind him three times

during the game. I said, 'Make them catch you.

His 34-vard quick kick proved to be a big one. West Virginia held a 10-6 lead late in the third quarter when Marshall's punt pinned Connecticut at its 2-yard line.

Two plays later, West Virginia safety Mike Lorello intercepted a pass that bounced off the foot of Connecticut receiver Keron Henry and ran it in 21 yards for 17-6 lead. The Mountaineers (5-1 overall, 1-0 Big East) were in con-

trol thereafter. "We got a lucky break there, Rodriguez said. "We were kind of in a rut, and that sparked us a lit-

On the next possession, Marshall hit Chris Henry for a 49-vard TD pass to extend the lead to 18 and send most of the 40,000 fans streaming for the

Marshall repeatedly rescued an offense that sputtered for almost three quarters. With leading rusher Kay-Jay Harris sidelined with injuries, Marshall and Jayson Colson kept the Mountaineers' ground game going, Colson finished with 111 yards and one

Lorello intercepted another pass off Connecticut quarterback Dan Orlovsky midway through the fourth quarter, killing another

"It wasn't like their defense confused us that much," Orlovsky said. "I missed some reads, we had some big drops tonight and that hurt us as far as momen-

The Huskies (4-2, 1-2), who were second in the league in scor-ing (30.6) behind West Virginia (35.6), were held without a touchdown until the fourth quarter, but made it interesting in the closing minutes

Defending champs on top after event's first round

BY RUSTY BRYAN Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany The champions picked up Thurs-day where they finished last year in the first round of 2004 DODDS-Europe high school golf tournament at the Rheinblick

Defending boys champ Gilbert Mendez of Rota has a two-shot lead in stroke play, while girls Würzburg's Frances Smythe amassed 26 points in the modified Stableford scoring system for an 8-point lead over Lakenheath's Sarah Wells.

The boys and girls are using different methods to determine a

"There's some pressure on me, sure," Mendez said after carding a 10-over 81 on Rheinblick's tricky 6,239-yard mountaintop layout. "But I've still got to go out and play my game.'

Mendez's teammate, Jason Allard, shot an 83 to tie Ramstein's Chris Hustead for second place after the first day. Three other Admirals, Jim Connelly, Ash Staley and John Orem, joined Allard and Mendez in the top 20, which qualified for Friday's championship

Allard shot a 39 on the front nine before shooting a 44 on the back nine.

"The back nine's harder." Mendez said. "There are a lot of tight drives.

The tightness of the 480-yard, par-5, 18th, however, didn't faze Allard. He uncorked the longest drive of the day by any player, about 330 yards

However, Allard, who birdied the par-5 ninth earlier in the day, was unable to capitalize on his big tee shot and settled for a bogey.

Mendez, who birdied the par-4,

DODDS golf

410-yard second hole, was unable to get under par again, but parred two of the last three holes to hold onto the lead. All 58 golfers who qualified for

this annual season-ending event had to contend with a chilly damp fog and some recently aereated greens with sand residue still on the surface. "It was more like gravel than

sand." Allard said. Smythe, who hasn't been tested

this season, posted just three pars, worth three points each, in her 26-point round to leave a slight opening for Wells. The tournament concludes Fri-

day, with first-flight boys teeing off beginning at 9 a.m. and the championship flight at 9:54. The girls begin play at 10 a.m., with the leaders' foursome scheduled to begin at 10:04. The boys' leaders' foursome is scheduled to tee off at 10:44.

DODDS-Europe golf championships

WIESBADEN, Germany – Scores Thursday from the first round of the two-day DODS-Europe high school oglif champion-ships on the par-71, 6:239-yard for boys and 5;6.1-yard for girls Rheinblick Golf Cub course. Ties are broken by better back-rine score. Scoring for girls only is modified Star Score. Scoring for girls only is modified Star four for birdle, three for par, two for bogey and one for double-bogey. Top 20 boys and one for double-bogey. Top 20 boys and

one for double-bogey. Top 20 boys ad- e to Friday's medal-play championship						
t: to rriday's medai-piay chai	npionsnip					
Boys						
Championship flight						
ert Mendez (Rota)	43-38-81					
n Allard (Rota)	44-39-83					
s Hustead (Ramstein)	41-42-83					
in Nelson (Hanau)	40-44-84					
s Presnell (Würzburg)	43-42-85					
ick Hamilton (Patch)	42-44-86					
Antonik (Kaiserslautern)	45-41-86					
Connelly (Rota)	44-42-86					
hen Fey (Patch)	45-41-86					
Nyander (Heidelberg)	43-44-87					
Staley (Rota)	43-45-88					
Orem (Rota)	46-42-88					



RUSTY BRYAN/Stars and String

Defending girls champion and first-day leader Frances Smythe of Würzburg watches a putt on No. 18, which she parred.

Ryan Bachmann (Ramstein) Adam Fugent (Patch) Luke Seely (Würzburg) Jeremy Gurr (Kaiserslautern) Max Mills (Patch) Matt Wiederholt (Rams) Madison Kennedy (W25 Michael Kersey (Lake) Michael Kersey (Lake) Charlie Springle (Rota) Jacob Schaeufele (Lake) Bryce Ellis (Heidelberg) Tyler Tressler (Baumhol Tyler Tressler (Baumholder) Brenton Batzer (Ramstein) Hunt Fowler (Heidelberg) Craig Lamb (Rota) Justin Fotter (Hanau) Scott Csmko (Patch) Fenton Fitzgerald (Ramstein) Chris Helfrich (Heidelberg) Fenton Fitzgerald (Ramstein) Chris Helfind, (Heidelberg) Bern Misselberg, (Heidelberg) Bern Misselberg, (Heidelberg) Bern Misselberg, (Heidelberg) Jeremlah Almostar (Lake) Phillip Scott (Wiesbaden) Steyen Leist (Kais) Craß Myers (Kais) Craß Myers (Kais) Craß Myers (Kais) Zach Spilltstoesser (Baum) Frances Snythe (Sirks) Jern Misselberg, (Wirzburg) Myesha Green (Mannheim) Sara Greenberg (Würzburg) Molly Henage (Lakenheath)

Sard Greenberg (Wurzburg)
Molly Henage (Lakenheath)
Katherine Riley (Würzburg)
Jamie Gonzalez (Heldelberg)
Hope Fotter (Hanau)
Jory Bergman (Lakenheath)
Rebecca Smythe (Würzburg)
Samanatha Lightle (Hanau)
Misola de Raye (Heldelborg)

Zook tries to clear air on frat fight

By MARK LONG The Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - Florida coach Ron Zook acknowledged Wednesday that he confronted several fraternity members after a fight between them and three of his players last month, and athletic director Jeremy Foley called Zook's behavior "unacceptable."

Foley called Zook on Sept. 16 and told him to go to the Pi Kappa Phi house to defuse a dispute between fraternity members and several football players. But when Zook arrived he threatened fraternity members, according to witnesses

He said, "I will do anything in my power to take this house down," according to a University Police Department incident report.

Earlier that day, three Pi Kappa Phi members allegedly fought with reserve offensive linemen Billy Griffin, Drew Miller and Steve Rissler.

Griffin received abrasions and bruises in the fight while Rissler sustained a laceration and a broken nose that caused him to miss the Sept. 18 game at Tennessee.

A sworn complaint was filed with the State Attorney's Office accusing fraternity members Aaron Baseman and Dustin Robinson, both 19, and Justin Bailey. 20, of breach of peace and disorderly conduct. The State Attorney's Office will investigate the complaint and decide whether to file charges.

Zook's actions were legal, though he issued an apologetic statement Wednesday.

"At the time, I didn't think the exchange was confrontational, Zook said, a day after he downplayed his role in the incident. "If I raised my voice, I apologize. This university deserves to be represented in the right way and in a

professional way. "I care deeply about our players, and because of that, some-times my emotions get the better

Foley said the matter was handled internally, but he refused to defend the longtime friend he hired in 2002 to replace Steve Spurrier.

"Coach Zook went there with the intention of keeping his players out of trouble, which he did, but he let his emotions get the best of him." Foley said. "Obviously, certain aspects of that evening could have been handled better and some of his behavior was unacceptable.

Zook downplayed his role after practice Tuesday, saying he ar-rived at the fraternity house and his players were behaving. He also said he wasn't confrontational - contradicting reports by pofraternity members and

Pitching poverty

Astros figure to lose arms race vs. Cards

t the rate Houston Astros manager Phil Garner has been going through pitchers, there won't be any grass left on the path between his dugout and the mound by the time this National League championship series grinds to a merci-

Whoever said Garner has been managing this postseason like his mustache was on fire

neglected to mention that his pitching staff has the third degree hums Jim Litke to show for it. With potent



lineups on both sides, Houston-St. Louis already has all the earmarks of a war of attrition that the Astros are bound to lose. A quick glance at the

boxscore from Wednesday night's 10-7 victory by the Cardinals in the series opener shows Garner used only four pitchers to St. Louis manager Tony La Russa's six. But that

doesn't begin to tell the story.

In the Astros' case, the story begins in Game 4 of their best-of-five division series with Atlanta. Leading 2 games to 1, Garner elected to go for broke, bypassing possible starter Pete Munro and instead giving the ball to 42-year-old Roger Clemens, who was still recovering from a particularly nasty bout of stomach flu

It's important to pause here and give Gar-

ner plenty of credit.

He took over an underachieving ballclub in the middle of the season, presided over one of the greatest second-half runs in baseball history and gave Houston its first postseason series victory in the 42-year history of the franchise. The question now, though, is whether the way he managed to win that one series finished off any chance the Astros had of winning this one, let alone the World Series

Clemens actually left Game 4 of the NLDS with the lead, but the Braves roared back to



Houston manager Phil Garner is looking for some way to relieve the strain on his pitching staff.

win it and the long-range effects of Garner's decision is haunting Houston's pitching staff still. Roy Oswalt had to come back on three days' rest to clinch Game 5, effectively ruling out both him and Clemens until the NLCS

heads south to Houston for Games 3 and 4. And you don't even want to know what will happen if they're needed for Games 6 and 7. Since the advent of five-man rotations, starters pitching on three days' rest are 7-20 in the

postseason But even that doesn't cover the extent of the damage. The short starts by Clemens and Oswalt nut even more stress on a hullnen still feeling the effects of the late-season charge that locked up the wild-card spot on the final day. In Games 3, 4 and 5 against the Braves, that already overworked crew accounted for 11 innings over just three days — and that was just a prelude to facing a St. Louis lineup that led the league in just about every offensive cat-

"I don't think we're strained " Garner said "Our guvs have not been overused coming in. I don't think we pushed anybody beyond what

their normal limits would be to be able to come back.
"I think," he added, "we're OK in that re-

Time will tell, but there's no doubt Garner would switch bullpens with La Russa in a heartbeat. St. Louis' was already deeper and more talented: it ranked as the NL's best, and the only toss-up between the two would be the closers, Houston's Brad Lidge vs. Jason Isring

hausen. And by now, the Cards have had a lot In their division series against the Dodgers. St. Louis relievers were called upon only once to get more than nine outs, and they responded masterfully, surrendering just one run against Los Angeles, Isringhausen had so little to do that after he closed out the Astros in Game 1 with just one pitch - a groundout by Carlos Beltran in the bottom of the ninth – someone asked whether he would have been happier taking the night off.

"No," Isringhausen chuckled, "I think after one pitch, I'll be all right for tomorrow. In contrast to Game 1 Astros starter Bran-

don Backe, who pitched on three days' rest Munro will throw Game 2 after a layoff of almost two weeks.

"It could be a bad thing for some guys, Munro said "but I don't think it's going to be a problem with me.

He doesn't figure to get much sympathy either way. Left-hander Andy Pettite, whose offseason move from the Vankees to Houston raised hopes that were dashed when elbow problems finished his year in late July, said every pitcher is worn out by this juncture. He took the mound twice in the postseason last year with only three days' rest.

"And I pitched as well as I ever did," Pettite said, "You count on adrenaline, try to build some momentum and then just hang on. You can make your body do some amazing

Right now, Garner would be happy if the local weathermen do something amazing instead, like get the forecast right. A storm front packing showers is headed for St. Louis by mid-afternoon Thursday, and it would provide relief for more than the crops.

"Praying for rain?" someone asked Garner as he headed back toward the Houston clubhouse after Game 1.

The Astros manager stopped, then turned and smiled "You just figured that out?" he said

Cards: Series opens with slugfest by wild card

Given a chance to do it, Walker struck out in the eighth inning.

"That's all I needed, just a home run? I think you could tell from my swings I was hacking at it pretty good," he said. "I knew what was at stake. I took a shot at it. I wasn't trying to hit a line

No one thought pitchers would rule in this series, and it was an accurate prediction. Edmonds' three-run double with two outs capped a six-run sixth inning that broke the game open and put St. Louis ahead 10-4.

"We got some huge hits that fell in for us," Walker said. "A string of hits is just as good as hitting the ball out of the ballpark.

Unheralded Pete Munro gets his chance to try to slow the team that led the majors with 105 victories. A guy who began the season in the minors with Minnesota, Munro will start Game 2 for Houston against 15-game winner Matt Morris on Thursday night.

For sure, Astros manager Phil Garner will find himself watching The Weather Channel. The fore cast is for showers, and the wild-card Astros would certainly welcome it

A rainout would allow them to bring back ace Roger Clemens in Game 2 and then use 20-game winner Roy Oswalt back home in Game 3.

Williams lasted six innings, adding to the victory he earned in Game 1 of the first round against Los Angeles. Jason Isringhausen got the final out for a save Chad Oualls wound up as the

losing pitcher, in relief of Brandon Backe.

"It was just a bad day today," Backe said.

Rolen, bothered by a strained left calf, was 0-for-14 in this postseason before lining a single that made it 4-all in the fifth.

"I got my one for the series," the All-Star third baseman said. "No, I hope not."

Williams' one-out double got the inning going, and Walker later snapped his bat on an RBI double. The ball looped to left while the shattered barrel flew into the Cardinals' first-base dugout and sent Edmonds scurrying.

For all the big hits, the Cardinals strung together a bunch of little ones in the game-turning sixth

Reggie Sanders got an infield single and pinch-hitter Roger Cedeno's groundout put St. Louis ahead. Womack and Walker added RBI singles, and another run scored on shortstop Jose Vizcaino's bounced throw before Edmonds' big double.

Berkman hit a two-run homer in the eighth and Lamb added a solo homer in the ninth.

Great Scott! Cardinals' Rolen gets a hit

RV R.B. FALLSTROM The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS - Scott Rolen is con tributing again - and that's bad

news for the Houston Astros. The Cardinals twice rallied from a two-run deficit in their 10-7 victory over the Houston Astros in Game 1 of the National League championship series on Wednesday night Rolen was responsible for tying it the second time, ending a 3-for-32 slump including 0-for-14 in the playoffs with a line-drive single in the fifth inning.

"Yeah, it was all right getting that hit " Rolen said

Rolen had a career-best .314 average, his first .300 season, with 34 homers and a team-leading 124 RBIs in the regular season His troubles began when he strained his left calf on Sept. 11.

more rest.

Since returning on Sept. 28, he has struggled with his timing. But he never lost his sense of humor. After the Cardinals eliminated

the Los Angeles Dodgers in four games, Rolen said during the celebration that popping champagne corks was enough for him. On Wednesday, he joked that he considered it an 0-for-2 slump because the Cardinals had started a fresh series

"I didn't know we had to go back to the first series and count all of those at-bats." Rolen joked. "But I felt good at the plate tonight and I felt good at the plate most of the last series.

"Results are important and tonight something got through for me. It's a good feeling.

Rolen also walked and scored

double that capped a six-run sixth. He wasn't about to predict a hot streak, though, noting that he struck out in his final at-hat

"I punched out late, so it could be over," Rolen said. "The well done dried up on me: I got my one for the series.

"No, I hope not. Tomorrow I'll come out and try to have a good approach again

The Cardinals got big games from their other big sticks — Larry Walker, Albert Pujols and Edmonds — to take the lead in the series. It was St. Louis' first victory in the opener of the NLCS since 1987

"Game 1 is pretty important unless you lose it, and then it's not so Rolen said. "Since we won it, we'll say it's a big game.

"Hopefully we can win tomorrow and come back and say Game 2 is a big game."



St. Louis' Scott Rolen, stretching before the game, finally got his first postseason hit Wednesday.

Boston bats silent again in New York

BY HOWARD ULMAN The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Red Sox bats that knocked balls over fences all season flailed wildly at them in the first two games of the AL

championship series. Then the team packed its lumber for the trip home, hoping to find new life in them at Fenway

"You haven't heard?" reliever Mike Timlin said. "It's called 'Friendly Fenway.'"

At Yankee Stadium, the Red Sox lost 3-1 Wednesday night, falling behind 2-0 in the best-of-seven ALCS. Game 3 is Friday in Boston, where the Red Sox had the AL's second-best home record - behind the Van-

"We don't play like slouches on the road, either," Timlin said.
For most of the first two games, that's exactly what they did.

It didn't matter that Manny Ramirez led the AL with 43 homers and added 130 RBIs. David Ortiz's 41 homers and 139 RBIs also were in the past. And so what if the Red Sox were the AL's highest scoring team and tied Anaheim with a league-leading .282 batting average? In the two ALCS games, the Red Sox had just three good innings out of the 18 played In the other 15, they had no runs and just five hits

The team counts on leadoff hitter Johnny Damon to set the tone, and with 123 runs and a .304 batting average, that's what he did all year. He struck out just once every nine at-bats during the regular season, but in the ALCS, he's 0-for-8 with five strikeouts "I'll take responsibility for

this." Damon said. "I'm the cata-

DADDY, FROM BACK PAGE

last season

"It actually made me feel really, really

good," Martinez said. "I actually realized that

I was somebody important because I caught

the attention of 60,000 people ... plus the

whole world. ... If you reverse time back 15

without 50 cents to actually pay for a bus. And

today. I was the center of attention of the

whole city of New York. I thank God for that

On this night, however, Lieber threw superi-or pitches, allowing three hits in seven-plus in-

nings. Even more remarkable, he's still recov

ering from elbow surgery that sidelined him

"He was as good as I've seen him all year,

years ago, I was sitting under a mango tree



Boston Red Sox's Johnny Damon walks off the field after striking out looking in the eighth inning.

lyst of this team. I'm the guy on this team that gets us going, gets on base and creates some havor but I haven't been able to do

The Red Sox actually sent the tying run to the plate in the ninth inning of both games. Then their

bats went silent again. Bill Mueller, last year's AL batting champion, grounded into a game-ending double play against Mariano Rivera with two runners on and Boston trailing 10-7 in the

On Wednesday, Ramirez doubled with one out in the ninth and cleanup hitter Ortiz coming up. And if he failed, Kevin Millar was on deck with another chance to tie the game.

But Rivera came through gain. He struck out Ortiz and Millar, who lugged their useless bats back to the dugout.

The Red Sox couldn't do much against the starters, either. Mike Mussina retired the first 19 batters in the opener, and Jon Lieber allowed just three singles in seven-plus scoreless innings.

"It's not due to being nervous. We just haven't been very suc-cessful," Boston manager Terry Francona said.

The Red Sox scored in only three innings - five runs in the seventh and two in the eighth on Tuesday, and one run in the eighth on Wednesday.

"You've got to give Mussina and Lieber credit. They pitched great games," said Ramirez, who went 1-for-4 in each game and didn't drive in a run.

Pedro Martinez kept the Red Sox in the second game by allowing one run on three hits before giving up John Olerud's two-run omer in the sixth

Now he's 11-12 against the Yankees, including playoffs. But in 15 of those games, the Red Sox scored three runs or less

"I can't do anything if we don't score runs," Martinez said. "Whenever I will get the support, I don't know. I'm not asking

But Damon hasn't abandoned hope that the hits will start com-ing, and the Red Sox will keep the series alive long enough to give Martinez another start against the Yankees.

That's my goal in life, to knock them off," Damon said. "We're still calm and relaxed. We're down 2-0. Big deal. We've won

Schilling won't start Game 5

The Associated Press

ROSTON - Roston ace Curt Schilling will not start Game 5 of the AL championship series Sunday because of an injured right ankle.

Derek Lowe will start in his place, Red Sox manager Terry Francona said Thursday, However, rain is forecast for Friday, when Game 3 is scheduled, and that could affect the rotations for both Boston and the New York Yankees.

Schilling is going to try to nitch later in the series, though he was too sore to try throwing

"He's not over. He's going to continue to try to prepare," Francona said.

Schilling, who led the major leagues with 21 wins, lasted just three innings and 58 pitches in Boston's 10-7 loss to the New York Yankees in Tuesday night's opener, allowing six runs in his poorest postseason performance since 1993.

He had trouble with his balance and pushing off the pitching rubber, which cut his veloc-

Red Sox team physician Dr. Bill Morgan said before Wednesday's 3-1 loss that the sheath that covers two tendons in Schilling's ankle is torn, allowing one of the tendons to slip out of its groove and rub against a bone.

MLB scoreboard

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES American League Tuesday, Oct. 12 New York 10, Boston 7

Wednesday, Oct. 13 New York 3, Boston 1, New York leads se-ries 2-0

New York (Brown 10-6) at Boston (Arroyo 10-9)

Saturday, Oct. 16

New York (Hernandez 8-2 or 14-10) at Boston (Wakefield 12-10)

Sunday, Oct. 17

New York at Boston, if necessary

Tuesday, Oct. 19 Boston at New York, if necess Wednesday, Oct. 20
Boston at New York, if necessary
Wednesday, Oct. 20
Boston at New York, if necessary
National League
Wednesday, Oct. 13
St. Louis 10, Houston 7, St. Louis leads seles 1-0

Thursday, Oct. 14
Houston (Munro 4-7) at St. Louis (Morris

Saturday, Oct. 16 St. Louis (Suppan 16-9) at Houston (Clemins 18-4)

Sunday, Oct. 17 St. Louis (Marquis 15-7) at Houston (Os-walt 20-10)

valt 20-10)

Monday, Oct. 18
St. Louis at Houston, if necessary
Wednesday, Oct. 20
Houston at St. Louis, if necessary
Thursday, Oct. 21
Houston at St. Louis, if necessary
WORLD SERIES

Saturday, Oct. 23 National League at American Sunday, Oct. 24 NI at Al Tuesday, Oct. 26 At at NI

Wednesday, Oct. 27 Thursday, Oct. 28 Thursday, Oct. 28
AL at NL, if necessary
Saturday, Oct. 30
NL at AL, if necessary
Sunday, Oct. 31
NL at AL, if necessary

> Wednesday Yankees 3. Red Sox 1

BOSTON

NEW YORK

ab r h bi

4 0 0 0 Jeter SS
4 0 0 0 ARdrgz 3b
4 0 1 0 Shffield rf
3 0 1 0 Matsui if
4 0 0 0 BWilms cf
3 1 1 0 Posada c
3 0 1 0 Olerud 1b
3 0 1 1 Cairo 2b Bilhorn 2b MRmrz if DOrtiz dh Millar 1b Nixon rf Varitek c 3 0 1 1 Cairo 2b 3 0 0 0 Lofton dh 31 1 5 1 Totals Mueller 3b Totals 000 000 010-1 100 002 00x-3 New York DP-New York 1. LOB-Boston 4. New York 11. 2B-MRamirez (1), Varitek (1). HR-Oler-ud (1). SB-Jeter (1).

Boston PMartinez L,0-1 Timlin Embree

driguez). T-3:15. A-56,136 (57,478).

Cardinals 10, Astros 7 ST. LOUIS ab r h bi HOUSTON

ab r h bi 5 1 2 0 Wmack 2b 5 2 2 2 LWalkr rf Bgwell 1b Brkmn rf 0 0 0 0 Rnteria ss 4 0 0 0 RSndrs If 4 0 2 0 Mtheny c 4 0 0 0 WWIms p 2 0 0 0 Cedeno ph AEvrtt ss Qualls p Hrvlle p 0 0 0 0 Calero p 0 0 0 0 MAndn ph 1 0 1 0 Haren p 0 0 0 0 King p 1 1 1 1 Tvarez p

Totals 37 7 10 7 Totals 34 Houston 200 200 St. Louis 200 026 E=JVizcaino (1). DP-Houston 1. Houston 4, St. Louis 6. 28-Bigg OPalmeiro (1), LWalker (1), Edmor WWilliams (1), 38-LWalker (1), Hamb (1), Lamb (ols (1), S-Walker (1), S-Mathem) (ols (1), S-Walker).

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sringhausen S,1 1/2 0 HBP—by Backe (Edmonds) T—3:15, A—52,323 (50,345).

Daddy: Lieber, Yankees solve Pedro again Following Orlando Cabrera's single leading off the third - Boston's first hit - Lieber re tired 13 straight batters before David Ortiz singled in the seventh.

> Working quickly, Lieber needed just 45 pitches to get through five innings — Martinez threw 46 in the first two innings alone.

Lieber's biggest thorn was Damon, who kept fouling balls off before lining to center in a 16-pitch at-bat with one out in the sixth. "That was definitely one of the keys to this

game," Lieber said.

Damon agreed it was a turning point. "I actually felt if I got on base right there,

we were going to have a big inning," he said. When Trot Nixon singled leading off the eighth, Tom Gordon came in and allowed Jason Varitek's double and Cabrera's RBI grounder.

Mariano Rivera entered with a runner on third and two outs in the eighth, just as he did Tuesday night when he jetted back from a family funeral in Panama to preserve New York's 10-7 win.

Rivera threw a called third strike past Damon to escape trouble, then finished the five-hitter for his second straight save and 32nd in postseason play.

ace Curt Schilling, whose ailing right ankle played. Martinez said he would pitch on short

Boston headed home unsure of the status of rest if needed.

"You feel good, but you don't feel too good,"

New York third baseman Alex Rodriguez said. "We feel like everybody wrote us off before this series started. Back on the mound where he blew a 5-2

lead in the eighth inning of last year's Game 7 Martinez again tired against the team that frustrates him most.

Pitching just a few miles from where Big Daddy and Daddy Warbucks became famous names on Broadway, he dropped to 1-2 against the Yankees in postseason play. During the regular season, Martinez is 10-10 against New York and 172-66 against the rest

"To beat him when he had his stuff like this, it really gives us a lot of confidence," Yankees manager Joe Torre said Jeter walked on four pitches leading off the

first and stole second. Martinez nicked Rodriguez on the hand with the count 2-2, and Gary Sheffield singled to center on the next pitch, with Jeter scoring easily ahead of Damon's weak throw. Martinez struck out Sheffield on a 95 mph

pitch in the fifth inning, but he got in trouble when he walked Jorge Posada with one out in the sixth and Olerud homered just into the right-field seats on Martinez's 106th pitch. It was the ninth postseason homer for Olerud, signed by the Yankees on Aug. 3 for the dis-count price of \$100,000 after Seattle released him from a deal that paid him \$7.7 million this vear.

"It ranks right up there," Olerud said, when asked if it was his biggest hit. "It's definitely the freshest in my mind."

Boston, which didn't get a runner on against Mike Mussina in the opener until the seventh inning, is hitting just .224 (15-for-67) in the first two games with one walk and 16 strike-"I'll take responsibility for this ... 0-for-8 with five strikeouts," leadoff man Johnny Damon said. "I'm the catalyst of this team.

Yankees captain Derek Jeter said.

I'm the guy on this team that gets us going gets on base and creates some havoc, but I haven't been able to do that." After a day off, the series resumes Friday at

Fenway Park, with Kevin Brown pitching for the Yankees against Bronson Arroyo.

"We'll regroup tomorrow," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said. "We really have no choice but to look forward to the next game."

SPORTS



A bash at Busch

Four Astros homers can't stop St. Louis

BY BEN WALKER The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS - Lance Berkman is certain the Houston Astros are going to score plenty in the NL championship series. Stopping the St. Louis Cardinals, now that's trouble.

It sure was Wednesday night. In a matchup that promised a lot of hitting, Larry Walker and Cardinals delivered. whacked balls all over Busch Sta dium, overcoming four Houston home runs to beat up the Astros

10-7 in Game 1 "You don't have to live with the long ball," Cardinals star Albert Pujols said.

Pujols hit a home run, while slumping Jim Edmonds and Scott Rolen contributed and winning pitcher Woody Williams added a double. And it was a significant win: The past 11 teams to take the opener of the NLCS have reached the World Series.

The Astros won the home-run derby, with Berkman, Carlos Beltran, Jeff Kent and Mike Lamb connecting to account for all of Houston's runs

"No disrespect to their pitching staff, but we haven't had a prob lem scoring runs the entire postseason," Berkman said. "Eventu-ally, we're going to have to win a 3-2 or a 4-1 ballgame if we're going to have a legitimate chance of doing anything in the postseason. But as far as we swung the bats, I've got no complaints."

Beltran's fifth homer of the

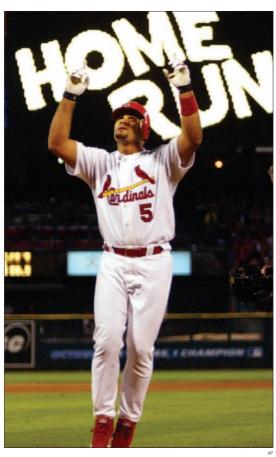
postseason put Houston up 2-0 in the first inning. Not that the top-hitting team in the league was

"We hadn't even come to bat yet," Walker said. "Right away you're thinking, 'OK, they have two runs, but let's get realistic, we haven't even made one of our 27 outs yet.

He was right. After Tony Womack lined out in the bottom half, Walker tripled on a ball that Berk-man misplayed in right field and Pujols hit a tying shot into the Cardinals' bullpen.

In an October when the ball is flying — 58 homers in 19 playoff games overall — Walker finished a home run shy of becoming the first player in postseason history to hit for the cycle.

SEE CARDS ON PAGE 30



St. Louis Cardinals' Albert Pujols reacts as he crosses the plate after hitting a two-run home run in the first inning against the Houston Astros in Game 1 of their NL championship series in St. Louis on Wednesday.



Yankees starter Jon Lieber took a shutout into the eighth inning.

They're still his daddy

Martinez loses duel with Lieber

BY RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Jon Lieber dislikes glitz and glamour, preferring to be a low-profile pitcher on the back end of the New York Yankees' rotation.

Not any more. In Game 2 of the AL championship series, he became Pedro Mar-

tinez's latest father figure. Pitching against the three-time Cy Young Award winner, Lieber smothered the highest-scoring offense in the major leagues. He took a shutout into the eighth inning, John Olerud backed him with a two-run homer in the sixth off the tiring Martinez and the Yankees beat the Red Sox 3-1 Wednesday night for a 2-0 lead in the AL championship series.

"I knew coming into this game what Pedro has done in the past in situations like this, so there was no room for error," Lieber

While Lieber likes being under the radar, Martinez, like it or not can't avoid the spotlight. He had can't avoid the sponight. He had it before and it only grew larger after a loss to New York on Sept. 24 prompted him to say: "Just tip my hat and call the Yankees my daddy. I can't find a way to beat them at this point."

While the raucous crowd of 56,136 at Yankee Stadium taunted Martinez with booming chants of "Who's Your Daddy?" he insisted he didn't mind

SEE DADDY ON PAGE 31